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Dale, s.	3rd	8	320	Comdr. Robert Boyd	Annapolis, Naval Academy.	Plymouth, s.	4th	12	1122	Capt. Edward Barrett	Hampton Roads.
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Huron, s.	3rd	4	450	Comdr. Geo. P. Ryan	N. A. Sta., Cruising.	Santos, s.	3rd	48	1475	Lt.-Comdr. Merrill Miller	Gunnery Ship, Naval Academy.
Independence, s.	3rd	23	1891	Capt. Thos. Patterson	Receiving Ship, Mare Island, Cal.	Shawmut, s.	3rd	8	410	Comdr. G. C. Wilts	N. A. Sta., Hampton Roads.
Intrepid, s.	4th	—	330	Lieut. T. T. Wood	Torpedo boat, New York.	St. Louis, s.	3rd	16	431	Comdr. Byron Wilson	Receiving Ship, League Island, Pa.
Jamestown, s.	3rd	16	888	Lt.-Comdr. Henry Glass	School Ship, San Francisco, Cal.	St. Marys, s.	3rd	16	766	Comdr. Robt. L. Pythian	School Ship, New York.
Kearsarge, s.	3rd	6	695	Comdr. F. V. McNair	Asiatic Sta., Hong Kong.	Swatara, s.	3rd	8	910	Comdr. A. P. Cooke	New York.
Leckawanna, s.	10	1026	Captain James A. Greer	At sea.	Tallapoosa, p.	4th	*2	650	Lieut. D. G. McRitchie	Spec. Serv., N. A. Coast.	
LEHIGH, s.	4th	2	496	Lieut. Chas. T. Hutchins	Port Royal, S. C.	Tennessee, s.	2nd	23	2185	Capt. Jonathan Young	Asiatic Sta.
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MANHATTAN, s.	4th	2	550	Lieut. J. A. Chesney	N. A. Sta., Port Royal.	Wabash, s.	1st	45	3000	Capt. Ralph Chandler	Receiving-ship, Boston.
Marion, s.	3rd	8	910	Comdr. R. F. Bradford	European Station, Villa Franche.	Worcester, s.	2nd	13	2000	Captain W. W. Queen	Receiving-ship, Norfolk, Va.
Michigan, p.	3rd	*8	450	Lt.-Comdr. A. H. Wright	Spec. Serv., Erie.	Wyandotte, s.	4th	2	550	Lieut. T. C. Terrell	N. A. Sta., Hampton Roads.
Minnesota, s.	1st	46	3000	Captain A. W. Johnson	New York, Training-ship.	Wyoming, s.	3rd	6	726	Comdr. Geo. W. Haywood	Washington.
Monongahela, s.	2nd	11	960	Comdr. S. Dana Greene	Baltimore, Training-ship.	Yantic, s.	3rd	8	410	Comdr. Wm. Whitehead	Asiatic Sta., Yokohama.
MONTAUX, s.	4th	2	496	Lieut. W. A. Morgan	Hampton Roads.						
Monocacy, p.	3rd	6	747	Comdr. Joseph P. Eyde	Asiatic Sta., Shanghai, China.						
New Hampshire, s.	2nd	15	2600	Commodore J. M. B. Clitz	Port Royal.						

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1. The Government Building at intersection of Belmont and Fountain avenues, in Exhibition grounds, built of framed timber with iron roof truss, felt roof and glazed sides, in form of Latin cross, central nave and aisles 400 by 100 feet; transept 300 by 100 feet; cupola at intersection, surmounted by lantern; whole area, 102,840 square feet. Building to be sold as it stands, without exhibits, shafting or gas fixtures, railroad track, fire plugs, hose apparatus or lightning rods, and to be removed as soon after February 1, 1877, as possible. Suitable for Foundry, Carshops, Ice-house, etc. Proposals will be received at 1735 "F" street, Washington, D. C., until 3 P. M., January 15, 1877, when they will be opened and award made.
2. Hospital Building, north of above, size 35 by 39 feet, and addition, 40 by 14 feet, two stories high; capacity—24 hospital beds, with rooms for dispensary, offices, store-room, kitchen, etc. To be sold as it stands, and removed as soon after February 1, 1877, as possible. Suitable for farm dwelling. Proposals will be received as above until 3 P. M., January 15, 1877.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check for 10 per cent. of the amount bid, the check to be forfeited to the Government in case the bidder shall neglect or refuse to complete the purchase by full payment within 5 days after notice of acceptance of his bid, and no work of removal to be begun until full payment made. The Government reserves the right to reject all bids not deemed satisfactory.

All desired information in respect to the Government Building may be had upon application to this office, or to Lieutenant Henry Metcalfe, U. S. A., at the building itself; in regard to the Hospital Building of Assistant Surgeon J. J. Woodward, Army Medical Museum, Washington, D. C.

All bids to be indorsed on envelope "Bid for Government Building, International Exhibition, 1876," or for "Hospital Building," as the case may be, and addressed to "Colonel S. C. Lyford, Chairman Board, United States Executive Departments, Washington, D. C."

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Brevet Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. A.,
Chairman of Board.

ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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THE ARMY.

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Brigadier-General R. Macfadyen, Commissary General of Subsistence.
Brigadier-General Jos. K. Barnes, Surgeon-General.
Brigadier-General Benj. Alvord, Paymaster-General.
Brigadier-General And. A. Humphreys, Chief of Engineers.
Brigadier-General Stephen V. Benét, Chief of Ordnance.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.
Washington, D. C. Colonel W. D. Whipple, Asst. Adjt.-General.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.—Brigadier-General John Pope.
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Headquarters, Santa Fe, N. M.
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Second Lieut. Fayette W. Roe, 3d Infantry, Act. A. A.-G.
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Colonel Thos. H. Ruger: Headquarters, Atlanta, Ga.
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Major Henry C. Wood, A. A.-G.
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.—Brevet Major-General August V. Kantz: Headquarters, Prescott.
Major James P. Martin, A. A.-G.

ABSTRACT OF IMPORTANT ORDERS.

G. O. 61, M. D. A., Dec. 8, 1876.

The Secretary of War has directed as follows: "The payment of rewards for the apprehension of deserters will be suspended in the Military Division of the Atlantic for the present and until otherwise directed."

Officers in this command will be governed accordingly.

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

Capt. J. G. C. Lee, A. Q. M., is relieved from duty at Hdqrs. Dept. of the South and will return to his proper station, Boston, Mass. (S. O. 172, D. S.)
A. A. Surg. B. L. Holt, from duty at Medicine Bow Station, and will proceed to Cheyenne, W. T., after which he will proceed to Fort Fetterman, W. T., for duty (S. O. 163, D. P.)
Capt. L. S. Babbitt, Ord. Dept., from duty at Watertown Arsenal, Mass., and will report to C. Gen. Dept. of Columbia for duty as Ord. Officer of that Dept. (S. O., Dec. 6, W. D.)

DETACHED SERVICE.

Captain J. Shapson, A. Q. M., member G. C.-M. Fort Whipple, A. T., Nov. 20 (S. O. 140, D. A.)
Major J. B. M. Potter, P. D., will proceed from Leavenworth City to Fort Riley, Kas., for purpose of paying troops at that post to Oct. 31, 1876 (S. O. 243, D. M.)
Col. T. H. Ruger, B. Brig.-Gen., will proceed to Columbia, S. C., on public business; Capt. J. R. McGinness, Ord. Dept., Ch. Ord. Officer will accompany him (S. O. 174, D. S.)
Captain C. B. Penrose, C. S., will proceed to Galveston, Texas, make a careful examination and report as to the subsistence supplies (if any) which, in his opinion, can be purchased there and delivered at posts as economically as from other depots from which posts in Texas are now supplied, the cost of transportation and the quality of the supplies which can be procured to be taken into consideration (S. O. 218, D. T.)
Major W. H. Eckels, P. D., will proceed to Pineville, Baton Rouge, and Clinton, La., for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points on the muster rolls of Oct. 31, 1876 (S. O. 241, D. G.)
Lieut.-Col. A. J. Perry, Deputy Q. M. Gen., Chief

Q. M. of Dept., will proceed to Houston, Clinton, and Galveston, Texas, on public business (S. O. 219, D. T.)
Major T. F. Barr, J. A., will proceed to Boston, Mass. (S. O., Dec. 7, W. D.)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

One month and ten days, to apply for extension of twenty days, Col. M. D. L. Simpson, A. C. G. S. (S. O. 238, M. D. A.)

ASSIGNED.

Major J. G. Chandler, Q. M., is announced as Chief Quartermaster of the Dept. (G. O. 19, D. S.)

REJOIN.

Lieut.-Col. B. S. Alexander, Corps of Engineers, will return to his station in San Francisco, Cal. (S. O., Dec. 8, W. D.)

THE LINE.

1ST CAVALRY, Colonel Cuvier Grover.—Headquarters, and E. L. H. Ft. Walla Walla, W. T.; A. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; B. Fort Klamath, Oregon; C. Camp McDermitt, Nev.; F. Fort Lapwai, I. T.; I. Camp Hallock, Nev.; K. Camp Harney, Or.; M. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; D. Presidio, Cal.; G. San Diego, Bks., Cal.

Detached Service.—Capt. E. V. Sumner, member, G. C.-M. Alcatraz Island, Cal., Dec. 7 (S. O. 161, M. D. P.)

2ND CAVALRY, Colonel I. N. Palmer.—Headquarters, A. B. D. E. Fort Sanders, W. T.; I. Fort D. A. Russell; C. Camp Stambaugh, W. T.; F. G. H. L. Fort Ellis, M. T.; K. Fort Laramie, W. T.; M. Camp Brown, W. T.
* In the Field, Powder River Expedition. † In the Field.

Change of Station.—Major E. M. Baker, relieved from duty as C. O., Fort Fred Steele, W. T., and will proceed to Fort Sanders, W. T., the Hdqrs. of his regiment, for duty (S. O. 162, D. P.)

Leave of Absence.—One month, to begin and terminate at St. Paul, Minn., to 2d Lieut. E. J. McClelland, Fort Ellis, M. T., to apply for extension of six months (S. O. 155, D. D.)

Revoked.—Par 2, S. O. 161, from these Hdqrs, granting leave of absence for one month to 2d Lieut. F. W. Sibley, at his own request (S. O. 163, D. P.)

3RD CAVALRY, Col. J. J. Reynolds.—Headquarters, and A. B. E. F. G. Fort Laramie, W. T.; H. Fort McPherson, Neb.; I. Fort Fetterman, W. T.; B. C. L. K. Camp Robinson, Neb.; M. Camp Sheridan, Neb.
* In the Field, Powder River Expedition.

Detached Service.—1st Lieut. A. H. Von Luettwitz will, accompanied by A. A. Surg. C. R. Stephens, as medical attendant, and Private Raab, Co. M, 3d Cavalry, as nurse, proceed to Washington, D. C., and report to the Adjutant-General of the Army (S. O. 163, D. P.)

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension, until Feb. 1, 1877, to 1st Lieut. A. C. Paul, Sub post Camp Sheridan, Neb. (S. O. 163, D. P.)

To Join.—2d Lieut. C. A. H. McCauley will join his company in Washington, D. C. (S. O. 243, D. M.)

5TH CAVALRY, Col. W. Merritt.—Headquarters, and A. B. F. I. Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.; D. K. Sidney Bks., Neb.; H. L. Camp Robinson, Neb.; C. G. E. M. Fort McPherson, Neb.

* Powder River Expedition. Mail care Hdqrs. Dept. Platte.
Assigned.—1st Lieut. W. J. Volkmar, A. D. C. to the Brevet Major-General Comdg. the Dept., to date from the 1st instant, vice Wetmore, resigned (G. O. 23, D. M.)

Revoked.—1st Lieut. W. J. Volkmar, having been appointed A. D. C. to the Dept. Comdr., par. 7, S. O. 235, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 241, D. M.)

6TH CAVALRY, Col. James Oakes.—Headquarters and C. G. M. Camp Grant, A. T.; B. Camp Lowell, A. T.; K. Fort Whipple, A. T.; H. L. Camp Bowie, A. T.; A. D. H. Apache, A. T.; E. Camp Verde, A. T.; I. Camp McDowell, A. T.; F. Camp on Gila, A. T.

Detached Service.—1st Lieut. H. P. Kingsbury, member, G. C.-M. Fort Whipple, A. T., Nov. 20 (S. O. 140, D. A.)

7TH CAVALRY, Colonel S. D. Sturgis.—Headquarters, and B. E. G. I. K. L. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; A. D. H. M. Fort Rice, D. T.; C. Fort Totten, D. T.; F. Fort Abercrombie, D. T.

Change of Station.—Major M. A. Reno is assigned to station at Fort Abercrombie, D. T. (S. O. 155, D. D.)

Indian Scout.—Capt. H. J. Nowlan, Q. M. of the force operating in the field, will employ G. W. Morgan as scout for one month, at a compensation of one hundred dollars, is hereby confirmed (S. O. 155, D. D.)

Transferred.—Upon his own application 2d Lieut. H. L. Scott, 7th Cavalry, from Co. E to Co. I of that regiment (S. O., Dec. 8, W. D.)

8TH CAVALRY, Col. J. I. Gregg.—Headquarters and B. Fort Clark, Texas; C. D. I. L. M. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. E. G. H. Ringgold Barracks, Tex.; K. Fort Duncan, Tex.; F. scouting.

Leave of Absence.—Major W. R. Price, to apply for extension of ten days (S. O. 217, D. T.)

9TH CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.—Headquarters, Santa Fe, N. M.; E. K. Ft. Union, N. M.; I. Ft. Wingate, N. M.; G. Fort Garland, C. T.; H. Ft. Stanton, N. M.; F. Fort Selden, N. M.; A. C. Fort Bayard, N. M.; B. Fort Craig, N. M.; D. Fort Wallace, Kas.; L. Fort Lyon, Col.

Leave of Absence.—One month, on Surg. certificate, to Major A. P. Morrow, Fort Bayard, N. M. (S. O. 243, D. M.)

1ST ARTILLERY, Col. Israel Vogdes.—Headquarters and B. K. Fort Adams, E. L. I. Fort Warren, Mass.; M. Fort Trumbull, Conn.; D. Plattburgh Barracks, N. Y.; G. Ft. Monroe, Va.; H. Fort Preble, Me.; L. Fort Independence, Mass.; A. C. T. E. F. En route to N. Y.
* Tallahassee, Fla., temporary duty.
† Washington, D. C., temporary duty.

Detached Service.—Capt. S. S. Elder, member,

G. C.-M. Fort Monroe, Va., Dec. 13 (S. O. 241, M. D. A.)

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of ten days, to 1st Lieut. E. D. Wheeler, Fort Adams, R. I. (S. O. 238, M. D. A.)

Rare and Curious.—The following unique document, clipped from the Camden (N. J.) Press, is going the rounds. It will probably be news to the gallant "First" that in the person of a private of artillery there exists an "assistant supervisor" who uses chairs or bayonets with equal facility as weapons of aggression, and who after causing his civil colleagues to be imprisoned by the U. S. marshal, is himself locked up in the guard house by a "Democratic sergeant." We fear that this correspondent frequently has differences of opinion on the subject of personal liberty with his superior officers, and attributes his invariable discomfiture to political bias on their part. As the biblioplists say, this document is "rare and curious." If Private Knight exists his rations of ink should be curtailed. He may be a knight sans peur, but, we fear, not sans reproche. The Press says: "The father of the writer of this letter is a highly respectable citizen, living at No. 326 Atlantic avenue, in this city."

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., Nov. 28, 1876.

DEAR PAP: We are here after a visit to South Carolina. I can go before the Legislature of that State and testify to the stupendous frauds practised in that State on Nov. 7. I was assistant supervisor at the polls at Liberty Hills, Edgefield County, S. C., that day; they could not get a Republican to go inside, and I was the only man in the company that understood the election papers. So I went inside, and everything went off all right until 10 o'clock that night. After the vote was counted, or very nearly so, one of the Democratic inspectors called me a Yankee — I broke a chair over his head, took the triplicate returns, and started for the door, when one of the others caught and held me while the returns were taken from me; they then demanded me to sign them after eighty votes had been taken from the ballot box. They were both armed to the teeth. I had nothing. The fellow I hit with the chair offered me fifty dollars if I would sign the Sheriff's returns. I told him I be — if I would sign any of them. They cocked their pistols, and I told them if they used any coercive measures with me, I had thirty-seven Federal bayonets at my back, and I would call on them for assistance. So I did not sign the returns. I had them locked up by the U. S. marshals, and the Democratic sergeant locked me up in the guard house, so I could not appear. The U. S. marshal demanded my release, which was granted, and I did appear amid hoots and shouts of Rebs like this: "We fought you once, you — — —, and we will fight you again." They were bailed out, and the vote of Liberty Hills was thrown out altogether. Dr. Elliot, of that place, gave a splendid dinner to the company. If I am called upon to testify I will go, you bet. Your son,

HARRY M. KNIGHT, Battery H, 1st U. S. Art'y.

We think it not improbable that Private Knight is quite familiar with the inside of the Post "Bastille," but await further advices before making up our minds on that point.

2ND ARTILLERY.—Colonel William F. Barry.—Headquarters, and A. Fort McHenry, Md.; B. Fort Foote, Md.; E. Raleigh, N. C.; F. Morganton, N. C.; D. L. Columbia, S. C.; K. Fort Monroe, Va.; H. G. Fort Sill, I. T.; I. Fort Dodge, Kan.; M. Marion, S. C.; C. Fort Riley, Kas.
* In camp, Chester, S. C.
† Washington, D. C., temporary duty.

Change of Station.—Co. G, now en route to Caddo, I. T., will, on arrival, proceed to Washington, D. C. (S. O. 243, D. M.)

Detached Service.—Major J. C. Tidball, Capt. J. H. Calef, 1st Lieut. J. E. Eastman, 2d Lieuts. W. P. Edgerton, V. H. Bridgman, members, and 1st Lieut. R. M. Rogers, J. A. of G. C.-M. Fort Monroe, Va., Dec. 13 (S. O. 241, M. D. A.)

3RD ARTILLERY, Col. George W. Getty.—Headquarters and C. I. Fort Hamilton, N. Y.; A. Blackville, S. C.; B. Fort Niagara, N. Y.; H. Madison Barracks, N. Y.; F. Fort Ontario, N. Y.; K. Fort Wood, N. Y.; M. Fort McHenry, Md.; G. L. Fort Reno, I. T.; D. E. Washington, D. C.
* Tallahassee, Fla., temporary duty.
† Washington, D. C., temporary duty.

Detached Service.—1st Lieut. A. G. Verplanck, member, G. C.-M. Fort Monroe, Va., Dec. 13 (S. O. 241, M. D. A.)

To Join.—1st Lieut. L. Smith will join his company in Washington, D. C. (S. O. 241, D. M.)

4TH ARTILLERY, Col. Horace Brooks.—Headquarters, B. Presidio, Cal.; L. Alcatraz Island, Cal.; E. Fort Stevens, Or.; G. M. Sitka, Alaska; D. Fort Canby, Wash. T.; I. Fort Monroe, Va.; C. F. H. K. Camp Robinson, Neb.; A. Fort Wrangel, Alaska.
* Powder River Expedition.—Mail, care Hdqrs. Dept. Platte.
† Washington, D. C., temporary duty.

Detached Service.—1st Lieut. J. W. Roder, Adj't., 2d Lieut. J. L. Wilson, members, G. C.-M. Alcatraz Island, Cal., Dec. 7 (S. O. 161, M. D. P.)

Leave of Absence.—Ten days, to 2d Lieut. O. B. Mitcham, Washington Arsenal, D. C. (S. O. 239, M. D. A.)

5TH ARTILLERY, Col. Henry J. Hunt.—Headquarters and C. F. Summerville, S. C.; A. K. St. Augustine, Fla.; B. I. L. M. Fort Barrancas, Fla.; D. Tallahassee, Fla.; G. H. Key West, Fla.; E. Charleston, S. C.
* Washington D. C. temporary dut.

To Join.—1st Lieut. B. K. Roberts, from duty at Lake City, Fla., and will proceed to join his battery (S. O. 175, D. S.)

1ST INFANTRY.—Colonel Thomas G. Pitcher.—Headquarters and I. D. E. Ft. Randall, D. T.; A. Lower Brule Agency; B. Ft. H. Fort Sully, D. T.; G. K. Standing Rock Agency.

Complimentary Order.—The following is an extract from S. O. 144, Headquarters Post of Standing Rock, D. T., Nov. 29, 1876: Mr. W. T. Hughes, Indian agent, having arrived at this agency, Capt. R. E. Johnston, 1st Infantry, is relieved from duty as acting agent, and will turn over to Mr. Hughes all property and funds appertaining to the agency. The lieutenant-colonel commanding takes this occasion to testify to the very able and efficient manner in which Capt. Johnston has performed the duties of agent, and to acknowledge the great assistance he has received from Capt. Johnston, acting Indian agent, in his official dealings with the Indians, and also in building barracks and quarters for the troops at this post. By order of Lieut.-Col. Carlin. Wm. P. ROGERS.

1st Lieut. and Adj. 17th Infantry, Post Adj.

3RD INFANTRY. Colonel De L. Floyd-Jones.—Headquarters and A. E. F. G. H. Jackson Barracks, La.; D. St. Martinville, La.; C. I. Pineville, La.; B. K. Baton Rouge Bks, La.

* New Orleans, La., temporary duty

Detached Service.—2d Lieut. W. Gerlach will proceed to Fort Hudson, La., on business connected with the National Cemetery at that place (S. O. 239, D. G.)

4TH INFANTRY. Colonel Franklin F. Flint.—Headquarters and K. Fort Bridger, W. T.; A. Fort Fred Steele, W. T.; B. Ft. Reno, W. T.; C. Ft. Fetterman, W. T.; D. G. Robinson, Neb.; E. North Platte, Neb.

Change of Station.—Co. H, 4th Infantry, will proceed to North Platte, Neb., and there take post, relieving Co. B, 23d Infantry (S. O. 163, D. P.)

Major H. G. Thomas will proceed to Fort Fred Steele, W. T., and assume command of that post (S. O. 163, D. P.)

Leave of Absence.—One month, to 2d Lieut. S. C. Plummer, Fort Fred Steele, W. T. (S. O. 163, D. P.)

5TH INFANTRY. Col. August V. Kautz.—Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.; P. Fort Whipple, A. T.; A. B. Camp Verde, A. T.; C. Camp McDowell, A. T.; G. Camp Lowell, A. T.; E. K. Camp Apache, A. T.; H. Ft. Yuma, Cal.; I. Cp. Grant, A. T.; D. Camp on Gila, A. T.

Detached Service.—Lieut.-Col. J. D. Wilkins, Capt. J. J. Van Horn, 1st Lieut. F. A. Whitney, A. D. C., J. O'Connell, 2d Lieut. E. Lynch, members, and 1st Lieut. T. Wilhelm, Adj., J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort Whipple, A. T., Nov. 20 (S. O. 140, D. A.)

Camp Apache.—A letter from Gov. Safford to the Arizona Citizen speaks of the fort and its garrison as follows: Seven miles brings us to Camp Apache, situated on the East Fork of White river, a short distance above its confluence with the West Fork. These streams are tributaries of Salt river. Camp Apache was established seven years ago last spring, for the purpose of placing a military force in the heart of the White Mountain Indian country. It is in the midst of a fine timber forest, grazing is excellent, and the small valleys on the numerous mountain streams, when cultivated, produce abundantly. Game is abundant, wild turkeys especially, of a very large size, are found in great quantities, and elk are numerous. Near the summit fish in the streams are plentiful and among the varieties the speckled trout, so much valued in the eastern States, predominates. An excellent vein of coal has been found near the post, which is used for blacksmithing. The officers and soldiers have excellent gardens, and nearly all kinds of vegetables are raised in abundance. The post is well built and is being greatly improved under the supervision of Lieutenant Bailey, the post quartermaster. Mr. St. James, the sutler, has an excellent stock of goods and appears to be doing a flourishing business. There is a company of Indian scouts, numbering forty, at this post, of which Mr. Stanley is the guide. They are stalwart looking fellows and have in times past rendered important service in helping to subdue the hostile Indians. They are very proud of their position and are ready and willing to follow and scalp father, son or brother, should he prove treacherous to the whites. They and their guide are extremely anxious to get an opportunity of punishing the renegades who have been committing depredations on the San Pedro and Chiricahua reserve. They say if they get after them they will follow them even if they go to the Gulf of Mexico. Camp Apache is one of the most pleasantly located posts in the department, and I feel under special obligations to Major Worth—who was in command during the temporary absence of Major Ogilby—Lieutenant Bailey and other officers for the hospitable and kind manner in which we were treated.

12TH INFANTRY. Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.—Headquarters and B. I. Angel Island, Cal.; A. K. Camp Mojave, A. T.; C. Fort Yuma, Cal.; D. Camp Independence, Cal.; E. Camp Gaston, Cal.; G. Camp McDermitt, Nev.; H. Camp Hallack, Nev.; F. Alcatraz Island, Cal.

Detached Service.—The C. O. of Angel Island and the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., will send to Fort Yuma, Cal., under charge of 1st Lieut. J. S. King, all enlisted men and laundresses at their posts for the 6th Cavalry, 8th Infantry, and companies of the 12th Infantry serving in Dept. of Arizona. On arrival at Fort Yuma, Lieut. King will turn over detachment to post commander, and proceed to his station (S. O. 162, M. D. P.)

The C. O. of Angel Island and the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., will send to Fort Vancouver, W. T., in charge of 2d Lieut. C. H. Bonesteel, all enlisted men at their posts for the 21st Infantry and companies of the 1st Cavalry and 4th Artillery serving in Dept. of the Columbia. On arrival at Fort Vancouver, Lieut. Bonesteel will turn over detachment to post commander, and report to the department commander for instructions (S. O. 163, M. D. P.)

Capt. E. F. Thompson, 2d Lieut. H. L. Hakkell, R. K. Evans, G. Howard, members, and 1st Lieut. W. W. Fleming, J.-A. of G. C.-M. Alcatraz Island, Cal., Dec. 7 (S. O. 161, M. D. P.)

13TH INFANTRY. Colonel P. R. de Trobriand.—Headquarters and D. F. New Orleans, La.; A. I. Vicksburg, Miss.; B. C. H. Baton Rouge, La.; G. I. Holly Springs, Miss.; E. Little Rock, Ark.; F. Columbia, Miss.

* New Orleans, temporary duty.

Change of Station.—1st Lieut. J. S. Bishop, from duty at Holly Springs, Miss., and will report to Col. P. R. de Trobriand, commanding battalions of the 3d and 13th Infantry stationed in New Orleans, for duty (S. O. 241, D. G.)

Detached Service.—Lieut.-Col. H. A. Morrow will inspect at Little Rock Bks, Ark., certain subsistence stores and commissary property (S. O. 238, D. G.)

Major R. S. La Motte, Capt. F. E. DeCourcy, W. M. Waterbury, G. M. Bascom, 1st Lieut. W. Auman, J. Fornace, H. M. McCawley, 2d Lieut. M. F. Samar, E. L. Fletcher, member, and 1st Lieut. J. C. Chance, J.-A. of G. C.-M. New Orleans, La., Dec. 12 (S. O. 243, D. G.)

Rejoin.—2d Lieut. M. F. Jamar, from duty with Co. B, and will join his proper company, H (S. O. 237, D. G.)

Confirmed.—The journey made by Capt. T. J. McGinnis on Sept. 7, 1876, as commanding officer of post of Monroe, La., from that post to "the island" and return (S. O. 242, D. G.)

14TH INFANTRY. Col. John E. Smith.—Headquarters and D. G. H. K. Camp Douglas, Utah; B. C. P. I. Camp Robinson, Neb.; A. Fort Hall, Idaho; E. Fort Cameron, U. T.

* Powder River Expedition.—Mail, care Hdqrs Dept. Platte.

Leave of Absence.—Until Dec. 20, 1876, to 1st Lieut. F. Taylor, Camp Robinson, Neb. (S. O. 163, D. P.)

2d Lieut. R. A. Lovell, extended two months (S. O., Dec. 6, W. D.)

16TH INFANTRY. Colonel G. Pennypacker.—Headquarters and G. Mt. Vernon Barracks, Ala.; D. E. Mobile, Ala.; B. Jackson, Miss.; I. Shreveport, La.; C. Little Rock, Ark.; A. K. Huntsville, Ala.; H. Monroe, La.

* New Orleans, temp. duty.

To Join.—Lieut.-Col. J. Van Voast, relieved from present duties, will join his regiment (S. O., Dec. 8, W. D.)

Ball Cartridges.—The C. O. of Jackson Bks, La., will issue to Capt. W. G. Wedemeyer, Co. F, three thousand c. p. metallic rifle ball cartridges, cal. 45 (S. O. 239, D. G.)

19TH INFANTRY. Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. G. Columbia, S. C.; E. Edgefield, S. C.; K. Laurens, S. C.; I. Aiken, S. C.; H. Allendale, S. C.; F. Abbeville, S. C.; Newberry, S. C.; Tallahassee, Fla.

Confirmed.—The journeys performed by 1st Lieut. R. F. Bates, Oct. 28, 1876, from Newberry, S. C., to Columbia, S. C., and return on public business (S. O. 177, D. S.)

19TH INFANTRY. Colonel Charles H. Smith.—Headquarters and D. Fort Lyon, C. T.; C. Fort Dodge, Kas.; B. Fort Larned, Kas.; E. Ft. Elliott, Tex.; F. G. Camp Supply, I. T.; K. Fort Wallace, Kas.; A. Fort Hays, Kan.

Change of Station.—2d Lieut. J. A. Payne will proceed to Fort Gibson, I. T., and assume charge of that post (S. O. 241, D. M.)

20TH INFANTRY. Colonel Geo. Sykes.—Headquarters and C. Fort Snelling, Minn.; A. Fort Seward, D. T.; G. H. Fort Ripley, Minn.; D. Ft. T. Ft. Pembina, D. T.; K. Fort Totten, D. T.; B. Ft. Lincoln; H. Standing Rock Agency; E. Lower Brule Agency, D. T.

Change of Station.—Capt. J. N. Coe, now at Fort Snelling, Minn., to duty at that post until further orders (S. O. 155, D. D.)

22ND INFANTRY. Colonel David S. Stanley.—Headquarters and A. Ft. Wayne, Mich.; B. G. Fort Porter, N. Y.; D. Ft. Brady, Mich.; C. E. Fort Mackinac, Mich.; I. Ft. Gratiot, Mich.

* Sioux Expedition.

Personal.—The Detroit Post says: Lieut. C. C. Cusick, of the 22d U. S. Infantry, has written a letter to a friend in this city from the Yellowstone region, Oct. 9. Lieut. Cusick was actively interested in archeological subjects, and contributed much to the interest of the museum and to the success of the Scientific Association in this city during his sojourn here. He was ordered to his regiment, in the Yellowstone region, last summer, and is now in Gen. Miles' command, and writes from the camp at the mouth of Tongue River, Montana territory. He says that since the close of the Sioux campaign he has devoted considerable time to the collection of fossils and other wonders of nature. He has found a great variety of fossil plants that are exceedingly interesting. He has secured several varieties of molluscs (radiates) and ammonites of the Paleozoic period. When he returns to Detroit he will place them on exhibition in the Scientific Museum. He says the scenery at the junction of the Yellowstone and Tongue Rivers is truly sublime.

Complimentary.—The following copy of a complimentary letter to a non-commissioned officer of this regiment has been received:

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION 22D INFANTRY, CAMP NEAR MOUTH OF GLENDIVE'S CREEK, M. T., September 25, 1876.

1st Serg. Wm. Schott, Co. F, 22d Infantry (through Commanding Officer Co. F), Camp at Custer Creek, M. T.:

SIR: In acknowledging the receipt of your report of the 3d inst., and the return of public and private property pertaining to the battalion, which was left at various points on the Yellowstone River, and which was afterwards, as far as possible, collected and cared for by you and the men under your charge, the lieutenant-colonel commanding directs me to say, that had it not been for your energy and attention to the duty assigned you, no doubt much of the property saved would have been misplaced or lost, and he expresses his approval and commendation of your action and services, feeling that you did all in your power to save everything; only a comparatively small amount having been lost. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. M. SMITH,

1st Lieut. 22d Infantry, Battalion Hdqrs.

23RD INFANTRY. Colonel Jeff. C. Davis.—Headquarters and G. Fort McPherson, Neb.; A. Fort Hartsuff, Neb.; E. Cheyenne Depot, W. T.; C. I. Sidney Bks, Neb.; K. Fort Reno, W. T.; H. Fort Laramie, W. T.; D. Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; F. Fort Riley, Kas.; B. Fort Dodge, Kas.

* Powder River Expedition.—Mail, care Hdqrs Dept. Platte.

Change of Station.—Co. B will proceed from North Platte, Neb., to Fort Dodge, Kas., for duty. Co. D will proceed from Omaha Bks, Neb., to Fort Leavenworth, Kas., for duty. Co. F will proceed to Fort Riley, Kas., for duty (S. O. 163, D. P.)

Detached Service.—Capt. T. M. K. Smith will proceed to Omaha Bks, Neb. (S. O. 242, D. M.)

24TH INFANTRY. Colonel Joseph H. Potter.—Headquarters and B. Ft. Duncan, Tex.; E. H. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. Ft. McIntosh, Tex.; C. G. I. K. Ringgold Barracks, Tex.; D. Fort Concho, Tex.

Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, Dec. 9, 1876.

Capt. Thomas B. Weir, 7th Cavalry—Died Dec. 9, 1876, at New York City.

Officers Registered.—At Hdqrs Mil. Div. Atlantic, Dec. 12: 1st Lieut. Jas. A. Buchanan, 14th Infantry; Asst. Surg. H. C. Yarrow, U. S. Army; Major E. D. Judd, Pay Department; Major Geo. D. Ruggles, Asst. Adj.-General; Capt. Henry F. Brewerton, 5th Artillery; Capt. W. A. Jones, Corps of Engineers.

WHO IS ELECTED PRESIDENT?

This is how the presidential question stands in the view of the politicians:

ROOMS OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE, } WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1876. }

To the People of the United States:

The National Democratic Committee announce as the result of the Presidential election held on the 7th of November, the election of Samuel J. Tilden, of New York, as President, and Thomas A. Hendricks, of Indiana, as Vice President of the United States.

We congratulate you on this victory for reform. It now remains for the two houses of Congress, in the performance of their duty, on the second Wednesday of February next, to give effect to the will of the people thus expressed in the constitutional mode by a majority of the Electoral votes, and confirmed by a majority of all of the States, as well as by an overwhelming majority of all the people of the United States. By order of the Executive Committee.

ABRAM S. HEWITT, Chairman.

F. O. PRINCE, Secretary.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1876.

An address has to-night been issued by the Democratic committee. It is the last desperate attempt to prop a failing cause. Gov. Hayes has been fairly elected by a clear majority of the Electoral vote. There is no indication that any right-minded citizen has a doubt as to the result. The address of the Democratic committee is an impudent and audacious attempt to prejudice and pervert the public judgment. Hayes and Wheeler are elected, and the will of the American people will be carried out and maintained.

Z. CHANDLER,

Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

THE Naval and Military Gazette, of Nov. 29, says: "We are enabled to confirm the intelligence that a first expeditionary force of twenty-five thousand men, and complete in its details, is prepared to embark for Constantinople at the shortest notice, and, moreover, that arrangements are sufficiently advanced to enable the authorities to reinforce it by a second corps d'armée of equal numbers, which will be held in readiness to embark if it should be judged necessary." Gibraltar and Malta have been supplied for twelve months. Since the probable advent of war there has been a plentiful supply of recruits, and the regiments selected to proceed to the threatened point will, in most instances, without much further effort, embark in full strength.

JAMES WEBSTER SMITH, the colored cadet who was a "bone of contention" at the Military Academy a few years ago, has just died at Columbus, S. C., of consumption.

At Fort Snelling, Dec. 7, James McCann, formerly a soldier in Company H, 20th U. S. Infantry, committed suicide by throwing his head on a saw attached to wood sawing machinery. Before the horror-stricken workmen could reach him his head was severed.

BT.—COLONEL A. D. NELSON, Lt.-Colonel 12th U. S. Infantry, was married, Dec. 7, at the Church of the Holy Saviour, East Twenty-fifth street, near Madison avenue, N. Y., to Miss Emily A. Sanford, a daughter of Mr. William E. Sanford, of this city, and sister of Lt. Col. Major Sanford, 1st Cavalry.

CAPT. WATSON WEBB, aged 43, son of Gen. James Watson Webb, late United States minister to Brazil, and brother of Alexander Alexander Webb, of the College of the City of New York, and Mrs. Col. Benton, of Springfield, has just died of apoplexy at Oakland, Cal. He was formerly of the 3d Artillery, and Connecticut State mustering officer during the war, resigning in 1869 to engage in business in California.

"OLD ABE," the veteran war eagle of the 8th Wisconsin regiment, was captured in 1861, sold to the 8th regiment, and served through three years of the Rebellion. He passed through twenty-five battles and as many skirmishes. At the close of the war he was given to the State, and during the last six months has been on exhibition at the Centennial. Governor Ludington of Wisconsin has kindly loaned him to the Old South Preservation Committee for exhibition in that venerable structure. The bird is now fifteen years of age and evidently in the prime of life. He was mounted on a tall pedestal, and surveyed the gathering with becoming dignity. He has never been exhibited for any but patriotic purposes, and the success of his reception is attested by the fact that he has netted to the soldiers of Wisconsin \$25,000.

THE INDIAN SITUATION.

THE FIFTH INFANTRY AND SITTING BULL.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

GEN. N. A. MILES, Col. 5th Infantry, commanding the troops on the Yellowstone, having learned that Sitting Bull with a large force of runaway Indians from the agencies was moving toward Powder River, for the purpose of annoying supply trains between Glendive and the Cantonment on Tongue River, M. T., was preparing to move against him, when the non-arrival of a large supply train determined him to move before the time originally intended. At half past two a. m., the 17th October, the 5th Infantry was ordered to move without delay, and the regiment was already crossing the Yellowstone by daylight. During the ensuing twenty-four hours the regiment marched 42 miles. Having reached the train and finding that an attack had been successfully resisted (with one man wounded), by five companies of the 23d Infantry, under Lieut.-Col. Otis, Gen. Miles with his regiment marched after Sitting Bull, who had moved to the northeast. On the 20th a force numbering from 300 to 500 Sioux appeared in front of the 5th. Line of battle was immediately formed and the "walk a heaps" advanced upon the red warriors. Two Indians, with a flag of truce, rode out toward the advancing line. They expressed a desire to talk with a view to overtures of peace. The 5th was halted and rested on its arms in line of battle, while its commander, attended by an officer and an orderly, rode out to have a "talk" with Sitting Bull. Sitting Bull did not want to fight—he wanted peace; but was informed that he could have peace only on accepting the conditions offered by the Government. The "talk" lasted until late in the evening, when the Indians withdrew, and the 5th was moved to a position from which it could move easily and effectively check any effort of the enemy to get away. Next day had been appointed for a final council. This was not permitted to interfere with the movement of the troops, who moved at an early hour upon the Indian position. At about eleven a. m. Sitting Bull's nine chiefs, Bull Eagle, Red Skirt, Pretty Bear, Yellow Eagle, John Sans Arc, and others, came out on foot and marching abreast, toward a knoll about half way between the opposing lines, on which were assembled Gen. Miles and several of the officers of his regiment. Sitting Bull wanted to be let alone and he would let the white man alone. After much talk by the various chiefs, Sitting Bull was informed once and for all that he must accept the liberal conditions offered by the Government or prepare for immediate hostilities, and the council dispersed—Sitting Bull disappearing like a shadow in the crowd of warriors behind him. (By the way, Sitting Bull is not Bison McLean, nor a graduate of West Point, nor anything but a thorough Indian—and one of the worst kind.)

The 5th were then deployed as skirmishers and prepared to move forward. The scene now was most animated. Gen. Miles sent for his company commanders, and they came charging over the field to receive his final instructions. On the other side, the Sioux leaders rode hither and thither at full speed in front of their line, marshalling their men and haranguing them, calling on them to be brave. Sitting Bull's interpreter, Bruy, rode back to ask why the troops were following him? He was answered by Gen. Miles that the non-acceptance of the liberal terms offered was considered an act of hostility, and he would open fire at once. The whole line then advanced in skirmish order, one company occupied a knoll on the left with the 3-inch gun, the first shell from which was greeted with a hearty cheer from the advancing line. The Indians tried their old tactics and attempted rear and flank attacks from the ravines, but they found those vital points well protected by companies disposed *en potence*, which poured in a torrent of lead wherever an Indian showed himself. The firing then became general along the whole line. Some of the sharpest shooting was done by the Sioux, and many officers only escaped "close calls" by the ends of their hair. Two enlisted men were wounded. Finally, Sitting Bull finding his old plan of battle frustrated by that solid infantry skirmish line, advancing upon him with the relentless sternness of fate, began a general and precipitate retreat.

Warriors were sent to various points to fire the grass, to burn up the wagon train, and try to escape amid the smoke. The scene, away up in the savage heart of the Bad Lands, with fire and smoke, and winged death threatening destruction on every side, reached the culminating point of the awfully grand, the sublimely terrible. But the line never wavered. The skirmishers marched unswervingly through flame and smoke. Then said the Colonel of the 5th: "Two can play at that game!" and moving to windward of the Indians, the troops fought them with fire in their turn.

The pursuit was resolutely kept up. On the 23d October the 5th Infantry reached the Yellowstone near the mouth of Cabin Creek—marching that day 27 miles. Small parties of Indians attacked the troops in rear and on the flanks, trying the usual Indian artifice to lead them away from the main trail, but unavailingly. The troops contented themselves with repelling these attacks—sometimes bursting a shell among an annoying group—but hung on "like grim death" to the "big trail." The result was the surrender on the 26th October of the principal portion of Sitting Bull's force, then present. He had fled northward with about 30 lodges. About 20 warriors under Gaul have probably gone in the same direction. Sitting Bull will, doubtless, in his retreat endeavor to draw around him what remains of the disaffected and hostile Sioux. The surrender included Bull Eagle, Red Skirt, Head Chief of the Minneconjons, Small Bear, Yellow Eagle, Spotted Elk, Poor Bear, Tall Bull, Foolish Bear, and Two Elk, with their bands—numbering from 400 to 500 lodges. These chiefs represent three tribes, the Minneconjons, Sans Arcs, and a portion of Sitting Bull's own tribe, the Uncapapas. They

agreed to accept the terms offered by the Government, to return to their agency, leaving as hostages in our hands Red Skirt, White Bull, of the Minneconjons, Black Eagle, Sunrise, and Foolish Thunder of the Sans Arcs, who, having given up their arms and horses, were sent to Gen. Terry at St. Paul, in charge of an officer, to be held until the arrival of their bands at the Cheyenne Agency is officially announced. Bull Eagle and Small Bear of the Minneconjons, and Bull of the Sans Arcs conduct the surrendered bands to the agency. Bull Eagle is a relative of Red Skirt, who is the Head Chief of the Minneconjons, and claims to represent 1,300 lodges. White Bull is Small Bear's father, and Bull of the Sans Arcs is a brother-in-law of Black Eagle and Sunrise.

The names of the officers of the 5th Infantry engaged in the attack, rout, and pursuit of Sitting Bull are: Gen. N. A. Miles, Col. 5th Infantry, comd'g; Lts. H. K. Bailey, Acting Adjutant, and T. M. Woodruff, Acting Engr' Officer; Major Jas. S. Casey, comd'g Co. A.; Capt. A. S. Bennett, comd'g Co. B.; Capt. E. Butler, comd'g Co. C.; Lieut. R. McDonald, comd'g Co. D.; Lieut. J. W. Pope, comd'g Co. E.; Capt. S. Snyder, comd'g Co. F.; Lieut. T. F. Forbes, comd'g Co. G.; Lieut. D. Q. Rousseau, comd'g Co. H.; Major W. Lyman, comd'g Co. I.; Capt. Mason Carter, comd'g Co. K; Lieut. J. H. Whitten, in charge of pack train; Lieut. W. H. C. Bowen, in charge of wagon train; Asst. Surg. L. S. Tesson, U. S. Army, accompanied the regiment as medical officer. The regiment marched 206 miles in 11 marching days. The Indians abandoned large quantities of dried meat, lodge poles, ponies, captured cavalry horses, etc. The troops marched right through the Indian camp. During the hot pursuit, which gave no time for examination of the innumerable ravines, five dead bodies were reported seen on the field. The number the Indians succeeded in carrying away cannot be ascertained. The number of wounded by musketry fire and shell must have been very large.

MACKENZIE'S FIGHT.

A correspondent of the *Herald* gives a further account of General Mackenzie's fight of Nov. 25th. He says: When the cavalry had almost all crossed the last deep cut near the mouth of the canyon General Mackenzie got everything in readiness for the charge. Colonel Gordon's battalion was at the head and Major Mauck's behind. Colonel Gordon had with him one staff officer, Lieutenant Tyler, 4th Cavalry battalion adjutant, and the following companies of cavalry: H, 5th Cavalry; Captain John M. Hamilton, 2d Lieutenant E. P. Andrus, L, 5th Cavalry; Capt. A. B. Taylor, 1st Lieutenant E. W. Ward, and 2d Lieut. H. W. Wheeler, H, 3d Cavalry; Captain H. W. Wessells and 2d Lieutenant Hammond, K, 3d Cavalry; Captain Gerald Russell, 1st Lieutenant O. Elting, 2d Lieutenant Dodd, M, 4th Cavalry; 1st Lieutenant John A. McKinney, 2d Lieut. H. G. Otis, F, 4th Cavalry; Capt. Wirt Davis and 2d Lieutenant J. W. Rosenquest. Major Mauck's 2d battalion was composed as follows: 1st Lieutenant W. C. Miller, 4th Cavalry adjutant, B, 4th Cavalry; 1st Lieutenant C. M. Callahan, D, 4th Cavalry; C. P. John Lee, 2d Lieutenant S. A. Mason, E; 1st Lieutenant F. L. Shoemaker, 2d Lieutenant H. H. Bellas, I, Captain W. C. Hemphill, who had with him two young officers who volunteered for the occasion, 2d Lieutenant J. M. Jones, 4th Artillery, and 2d Lieutenant J. N. Allison, 3d Cavalry.

The following is given as a full list of killed and wounded:

Killed.—Lieut. J. A. McKinney, comd'g Co. D, 4th Cavalry; Corpl. P. F. Ryan, D, 4th Cavalry; Privates J. Mengis, H, 5th Cavalry; A. Keller, E, 4th Cavalry; J. Sullivan, B, 4th Cavalry; Beard, D, 4th Cavalry; A. McFarland, L, 5th Cavalry, died on the 28th.

Wounded.—Third Cavalry—Sergt. D. Cunningham (H), foot fractured; Privates J. E. Tallmadge (H), flesh wound; H. Holden (H), flesh wound, shoulder. Fourth Cavalry—Sergt. Thos. H. Forsyth (M), flesh wound; Corpl. Wm. Lynn (M), Corpl. W. H. Poole (I), flesh wound; Corpl. Jacob Schaulier (I), fractured arm; Privates L. Maguire (M), flesh wound; J. McMahon (M), flesh wound; C. F. Lurig (F), flesh wound, thigh; P. Keardon (M), flesh wound, arm; C. Thompson (F), flesh wound, shoulder; E. H. Iverson (M), flesh wound. Fourth Cavalry—Privates E. L. Buck (E), ball lodged in thigh; A. Strick (E), flesh wound; E. Fitzgerald (D), flesh wound; G. Kenney (I), flesh wound in the neck; D. Stephens (I), wounded lung; W. Harrison, fractured foot. Fifth Cavalry—Privates G. H. Stickney (H), flesh wound; C. Folsom (H), fracture of thigh; Anzi Shoshone (Indian) Abdomen.

COLONEL MACKENZIE'S REPORT.

CAMP ON POWDER RIVER, November 26.

Brigadier-General George Crook, Commanding Powder River Expedition:

SIR: I have the honor to report that at about 12 o'clock a. m. on the 24th instant, while marching in a southwesterly direction toward the Sioux pass of the Big Horn mountains, I was met by 5 of the 7 Indian scouts who had been sent out the evening before, who reported that they had discovered the main camp of the Cheyennes at a point in the mountains about 15 or 20 miles distant, 2 of the 7 Indians remaining to watch their camp. The command was halted until near sunset, and then moved toward the village, intending to reach it at or before daylight. Owing to the nature of the country, which was very rough and, in some places, difficult to pass with cavalry, the command did not reach the village until about half an hour after daylight. The surprise was, however, almost, if not quite, complete. The approach to the village—the only practicable one—entered at the lower end, and the Indians taking alarm took refuge in a network of very difficult ravines beyond the upper end of the village, leaving it on foot, and taking nothing but their arms with them. A brisk fight for about an hour ensued, after which skirmishing was kept up until night. The village, consisting of 173 lodges and their entire contents, were destroyed. About 500 ponies were taken, and 25 Indians killed, whose bodies fell into our hands, but, from reports which I have no reason to doubt, I believe a much larger number were killed. Our loss was 1 officer and

5 men killed, and 25 soldiers and 1 Shoshone Indian wounded. 15 cavalry horses and 4 horses belonging to the Indian scouts were killed. The command remained in the village during the night, and moved to this point to-day. Lieut. McKinney, 4th Cav., who was killed in this affair, was one of the most gallant officers and honorable men that I have ever known. R. S. MACKENZIE, Col. 4th Cav.

COLONEL OTIS' FIGHT.

The following is the list of officers and their respective companies, composing the escort of the train to Tongue River, M. T., that were attacked by Sitting Bull and his band, Oct. 14 and 15, 1876. After twelve hours fighting the hostiles were whipped: Lieut.-Col. E. S. Otis, 23d Infantry, comd'g; 1st Lieut. O. M. Smith, Batt. Adj.; Capt. Sanger, 17th Inf., comd'g Co. G; Capt. McArthur, 17th Infantry, comd'g Co. C; 2d Lieut. J. D. Nickerson, 17th Infantry, Co. C; Capt. C. W. Miner, 23d Infantry, comd'g Co. G; 1st Lieut. Lockwood, 23d Infantry, with Co. C; Capt. Hootton, 23d Infantry, comd'g Co. K; Lieut. W. Kell, 23d Infantry, with Co. K; Lieut. Conway, 23d Infantry, comd'g Co. H; Lieut. Sharpe, 22d Inf., with Co. H.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

THE TWO SIDES OF THE STORY.

THOSE two eminent Englishmen, Thomas Carlyle and John Bright, are both disposed to trust Russia rather than Turkey with the control of the Slavic provinces, and give most vigorous expression to their opinions of the impolicy of the wrong of interference by England on behalf of Turkey.

Mr. Carlyle, in his usual vigorous style, says, in a letter to a friend in England: "In the first place, then, for 50 years back my clear belief about the Russians has been that they are a good and even noble element in Europe. Conspicuously they possess the talent of obedience, of silently following orders given, which in the universal celebration of ballot-box, divine freedom, etc., will be found an invaluable and peculiar gift. Ever since Peter the Great's appearance among them, they have been in steady progress of development. In our own time they have done signal service to God and man in drilling into order and peace anarchic populations all over their side of the world. The present Czar of Russia I judge to be a strictly honest and just man, and, in short, my belief is that the Russians are called to do great things in the world, and to be a conspicuous benefit, directly and indirectly, to their fellowmen. To undertake a war against Russia on behalf of the Turk, it is evident to me would be nothing short of insanity; and has become, we may fondly hope, impossible for any Minister, or Prime Minister, that exists among us. Twenty years ago we already had a mad war in defence of the Turk; a mass of the most hideous and tragic stupidity, mismanagement, and disaster (in spite of the bravest fighting) that England was ever concerned in since I knew it; a hundred millions of money and above 60,000 lives were spent in the enterprise. By treaties of Paris, etc., the Turk was preserved intact, binding himself only to reform his system of government, which certainly of all things in the world needed reform. And now, after 20 years of waiting, the Turk is found to have reformed nothing nor attempted to reform anything. Not to add that by bankrupt finance he has swallowed a disastrous tribute of many new millions from the widows and orphans of England. As for all which he has wound up by the horrors of Bulgaria and such savageries as are without a parallel. With these weighty aggravations, the Turkish question returns upon us anew, and demands a solution. It seems to me that something very different from war on his behalf is what the Turk now pressingly needs from England and from all the world—namely, to be peremptorily informed that we can stand no more of his attempts to govern in Europe, and that he must *quam primum* turn his face to the eastward, for ever quit this side of the Hellespont, and give up his arrogant ideas of governing anybody but himself. Such immediate and summary expulsion of the Turks from Europe may appear to many a too drastic remedy; but to my mind it is the only one of any real validity under the circumstances. This result is in the long run inevitable, and it were better to set about it now than to temporize and haggle in the vain hope of doing it cheaper some other time. As to the temporary or preparatory government of the recovered provinces, cleared of their unspeakable Turk government for twenty, or, say, any other term of years, our own experience in India may prove that it is possible, and in a few faithful and skilful hands is even easy. Nor in the temper of the Czar and of the Austrian Emperor need the fair partition of these recovered territories be a cause of quarrel. Austria must expect to become more and more a Slavic and Hungarian Empire, her 9,000,000 of Germans more and more gravitating toward their countrymen of the great German Empire. The Czar, whose serious task it is to protect the Christian subjects in Turkey proper, will justly have a claim to territorial footing in the recovered country. To England there is one vital interest, and one only—that of securing its road to India, which depends on Egypt and the Suez Canal. The thing to be desired is concord among the three Great Powers, and if, as we do hope, there is a mutual trust grounded on honesty of intention on the part of each, none claiming more than in the nature of things belongs to him, we may confidently expect that the difficulties of the business can not prove insuperable. It seems to me the advice of Prince Bismarck, a magnanimous, noble, and deep-seated man, who has no national aims or interest in the matter, might be very valuable; nay, were he appointed arbiter where difficult dissidences arose, what but benefit would be likely to result? But on this portion of the subject I am not called to write. The only clear advice I have to give is, as I have stated, that the unspeakable Turk should be immediately struck out of the question, and the country left to honest European guidance, delaying which can be profitable or

agreeable only to gamblers on the Stock Exchange, but distressing and unprofitable to all other men."

Mr. Bright in a recent speech said: "We are told that Russia is an aggressive power, and that she wanted simply to fight with Turkey in order to possess Constantinople and dominate alike to Europe and Asia. There was no proof of this before the Crimean war, and there is no proof of it now. In fact, on the former occasion the proof was all the other way. From the beginning of the present difficulty Russia has made distinct and frank offers to the English government as to the terms on which she believed that peace might be made to the permanent advantage of the Christian subjects of the Porte. It was said before the Crimean war that Turkey is the only safe keeper of the Straits of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, which lead from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean. So far from this being the case, Turkey for 300 years would allow no mercantile ship to pass those Straits, and it was only by a treaty made with Russia after the war that the power of passage was ever obtained. It was also said, and is now repeated, English interests in India and the Levant were at stake, and would suffer if Russia were allowed to possess these Straits. But no single speaker or writer in favor of war has advanced an atom of proof in support of the assertion. If you measure the distance from Land's End to Constantinople by the route that would be taken by a ship, you find that we are close upon 3,000 miles away. And does any man in his senses believe that the honor or interest of England could be affected or involved in any question of territory or of conquest that may arise in that part of the world? The nations that are nearer Russia are not afraid of her. They can afford to be tranquil. Their Prime Ministers do not speak—what shall I call it?—rhodomontade and balderdash, nor do they blow trumpets and call the nation to arms for a wholly fancied cause, such as is now being urged as an inducement to this country to embark in a costly, probably a prolonged and certainly a bloody war. I say, with as much sincerity as I ever said anything in my life, that I believe we have not as much interest in this business as would justify us in sending a single man to slaughter; but I hope and believe that out of this matter there will not be war. The statements contained in the papers published this morning seem to me likely very much to soothe the anxieties which have been disturbing the public mind. I allude to the reported conversation between our Ambassador at St. Petersburg and the Emperor of Russia. I believe the language used by the Emperor shows him to be as anxious for peace as any statesman of either party in this country. I believe the very explicit declarations which he made are immensely to his credit, and that they show a desire on his part to appeal to the common sense, the good sense, the peaceable feeling, or, if you like, the Christian feeling of the people of this country.

A TURKISH OPINION.

On the other hand, a London correspondent reports an interview with one of the representatives of the Turkish government, which gives the Ottoman view of the case:

"All we daily hear and read is mere stock-jobbery or diplomatical lies. The whole question is in Russia's hands, and she has already gone too far to back out. War has become inevitable, but it was not so a short time since—not on our part at least. The general impression is that we hate Russians, and that there exists an ill feeling between us and them stronger than that which is supposed to be nourished now-a-days between the German and the French. This is a mistake. Our people are fanatics, but not enthusiasts. Their hatred is rather a passive than an active one. They merely ignore the 'invidious dog' as long as he does not bite. I speak here, of course, of the mass of the people, not of the educated classes, with whom, as you know, a Russian is just as welcome as a Frenchman, or an Englishman, or a man of any other nationality as long as he is a gentleman. The ill feeling which existed twenty-three years ago at the outbreak of the last war had completely cooled down. We would have forgotten all about it, had not the Russians been so anxious constantly to remind us of it. And when I say here Russians, I mean individual Russians, not their government; for it is the peculiarity of the present outbreak, that while our former wars with Russia were originated by the Czars, this one is the work of the people. The Czar has been driven into it by his subjects, and this may turn up to be the worse feature of the conflict, for our people are aware of it, and will fight all the fiercer."

"Do you really think that the Russian government is as pacific as it represents itself, and as many people believe it to be?"

"I do, as far as the present government is concerned. They did not want a war, either with us or anybody else. All they may have desired was to abolish the treaty of Paris, which they did, and to get back the mouths of the Danube and a couple of little fortresses on it, which they lost in 1855. This they might have got back in many a way. In any case, the game was not worth the candle, and the Czar would never have gone to war for the sake of recovering this little bit of lost territory, which, after all, has neither strategical nor commercial importance for him. He has been made the tool of his clergy on the one hand, and of the Pan Slavist party on the other. Through the press and the pulpit they worked up the mass of the people, and, before Alexander knew anything, his volunteers were filling the ranks of the Serbian army, and the fashionable ladies of his capital were making lint for the Serbian hospitals. The calculation of the leaders of this movement was very simple. If the Serbs are successful, argued they, the whole of the northern provinces will be declared independent and Turkey reduced to naught. If, on the contrary, the Serbs are beaten, why? we shall get up a cry of 'Stop that bloodshed,' and if Europe does not join in it the Czar's regiments will. And so it occurred. The Serbs

were beaten, the stop-that-bloodshed cry was gotten up, Europe did not seem disposed to join in it, and the Czar sent his ultimatum of October 31 and issued a manifesto for the mobilization of his army. Now, will you kindly give me an instance in the history of any part of the globe, where the victorious side in an armed struggle was compelled by the dictate of an outside power not only to abandon all the fruits of its victories, but to yield to all the demands of the vanquished? Yet this is the position we are in. We have beaten the Serbian army—and a rebel army, mind you—in regular warfare, and have to pay damages just as if this war had been a mere street assault of a party of London drunkards upon peaceful and respectable citizens. We have already lost too many provinces, and our people have made up their minds that they won't lose any more without fighting. If Russia chooses to be satisfied with such reforms as justice really requires, we can still come to an understanding. But, as long as the autonomy of Bulgaria is mentioned, blood has to be shed, and a good deal of it."

Step by step the conversation turned to the probable issue of the war, and to the respective chances of the two conflicting powers.

"It would be very difficult to make any guess with reference to this subject," said my companion. "Russia has more soldiers, but I believe we have better ones. The discipline and sobriety of our troops are without limit. Their religious belief is that any man dying on the battle field goes right straight to Paradise. They live on rice and bread, and if they get meat once a week they are quite satisfied. Wine and spirits are out of the question for them, and they give up willingly even coffee and tobacco. Of such men, endowed by nature with a great deal of courage and agility, admirable fighting material is made, and the gawky, heavy-feeding, heavy-drinking Russian soldier has always had a hard job in fighting us. Their success was invariably due to numerical superiority and better armament. But at present we have just as good guns and cannon as they have, while the strength of the two armies cannot be estimated before they are actually brought under arms, for it must not be forgotten that with us every able-bodied man will be made a soldier at the moment Russian battalions have appeared at the foot of the Balkans. Then, again, Russia has a lot of Mussulmans to trouble her in Central Asia and on the Caucasus. All these hostile tribes are not unlikely to rise as one man the moment it becomes known that the Giaour is waging war on the Sultan. An uprising of these tribes will give Russia a great deal of *fil à retordre* and naturally reduce the contingent available for service on the Balkan Peninsula. One great advantage the Russians have over us is that their army is better officered. The average subordinate officer in Russia is a much more accomplished soldier than in Turkey. Our generals, though, are just as good as theirs. The four leading men now in command of the army are as talented commanders as could be found in any army. Abul-Kerim Pasha, our Serdar-i-Ekrem (generalissimo), is a gentleman of vast knowledge and experience. The Mushir (Marshal), Osman Pasha, and the two generals of division under his orders, Suleiman Pasha and Mahmed-Ali Pasha, are not only brave and able generals, but thorough students of the science of war. Aziz-Pasha, our chief of artillery, has been the main cause of our success over the Serbians. It is our artillery that has invariably assured their defeat. With such men at the head of the army, with Midhat-Pasha as President of the Council, and Safvet-Pasha as Minister of Foreign Affairs, I consider everything as safe as can be under the circumstances. A victorious issue is by no means sure, but we will make them fight hard, anyhow."

"Russia is not much better off, at least as far as war expenditures are concerned. We shall have to fight at home, and can fight much cheaper than she. She will have to pay in gold for everything. Our soldiers have not received their pay for months and months past, yet they fight just as willingly as if they had been paid with the regularity of English soldiers. I tell you, the result of this conflict is by no means certain yet. At all events, we cannot lose more than Russia demands now. Any great success on her part will call forth a European intervention. Neither England nor Germany will allow any aggrandisement of Russia at our expense. By fighting, therefore, our government not only defends our national honor and satisfies the wishes of the people, but obtains a fair chance to lose less than it must inevitably lose now."

COL. THOS. B. WEIR.

THE Army will receive with surprise as well as with deep regret, the announcement of the death of Brevet Lieut.-Col. Thomas B. Weir, Capt. 7th Cavalry. Col. Weir was in the prime of life, 38 years of age, and no preliminary announcement of illness preceded the report of his death, which occurred suddenly in New York, on Saturday, Dec. 9, of congestion of the brain. Col. Weir was a graduate of the University of Michigan, and entered the military service Oct. 13, 1861, as a 2d lieutenant of the 3d Michigan Cavalry. He continued in the volunteer service until Feb. 12, 1866, rising by meritorious service to the rank of lieutenant-colonel. July 28, 1866, he received the appointment of 1st lieutenant of the 7th Cavalry, organized by the act of Congress of that date. A year later, July 31, 1867, he was promoted to captain, and received the brevets of major and lieutenant-colonel. He participated with Gen. Custer in the campaign against Sitting Bull, and the fatigue and exposure having impaired his health, he was detailed about two months ago to take charge of the cavalry recruiting office in the Burton mansion on Hudson street. The change from an active life on the Plains to sedentary office duty resulted in little benefit, however, and his constitution broke down utterly. Col. Weir was a handsome man, of

commanding appearance, and was noted for his urbanity and kindness in social life, as well as distinguished on the field of battle as a brave soldier. Col. Weir was buried on Governor's Island with military honors, on Wednesday, Dec. 14. Of his military companions present were Gen. Stanley, Col. Geo. Gibson, of the 5th Infantry; Col. Kent, Col. Stacey, 12th Infantry; Major Morris and Lieut. Dougherty. Of his old college classmates, to whom he was especially endeared, were B. F. Blair, Ira Olds, Dr. W. A. Ewing, and B. F. Rice. Arriving at Governor's Island, the remains were received with military honors by Col. Chambers, in command of the post, and two companies of infantry. At the cemetery the impressive burial services of the Episcopal Church were read by the post chaplain, after which the body was lowered into its last resting place, and a salute fired over the open grave, and the trumpet sounded the "Taps." A beautiful cross of white immortelles presented by Mrs. Col. Gibson, was placed on the grave, and wreaths of flowers contributed by the soldiers.

BREVET LIEUT.-COLONEL CHARLES H. LAUB, Assistant Medical Purveyor, with the rank of Major, died at the Soldiers' Home, Washington, D. C., Dec. 2, of general exhaustion, resulting from an attack of paralysis about six months since. He entered the Service as Assistant Surgeon, Nov. 30, 1866, serving through the Florida and Mexican wars, and was promoted Surgeon Oct. 17, 1864. He was Medical Purveyor in Washington during the greater part of the war, being assigned to the Soldiers' Home in 1867. He leaves a wife and four daughters, all of the latter married. During his long career of forty years, Dr. Laub, besides his service in Florida and Mexico, was stationed at Fort Winnebago, W. T., 1845; Fort Pike, La., 1846; Fort Burke, Fla., 1850; Fort Mackinac, Mich., 1852; Fort Columbus, N. Y., 1861; Washington, 1863, and St. Louis 1863. He was Medical Director of Department of Tennessee from January to March 1863, and a member of the Retiring Board in 1864.

At Taos, New Mexico, the grave of Kit Carson and his wife is inclosed by a white paling-fence, and there is no stone to mark the site.

A Herald correspondent who recently "interviewed" Hon. Benjamin Hill of Georgia, reports him as saying:

The South, above all things, wants an honest administration of the general Government, according to the Constitution. I do not know Governor Hayes personally, but from the information I get concerning him, I believe he is an honest and a fair man. Being a lawyer he is also familiar with civil matters, and will naturally have respect for the Constitution and civil methods. These things being true, he must necessarily discontinue the unwarrantable interferences in the affairs of the South; he will also naturally desire the co-operation of the best men in the South. If this be true, his administration will be a great gain and improvement to the Southern people.

Correspondent—Will not those Representatives now in Congress who have seen service in the ex-Confederate army, by the calmness, moderation and counsels, as shown in the House, exercise a good influence in the peaceful solution of the present difficulties?

Mr. Hill—I certainly think so. These Representatives feel, and feel keenly, the embarrassments of their situation. They are the subjects of suspicion. This suspicion may be considered somewhat natural. As a result of this feeling they are not inclined to make themselves prominent or conspicuous in directing events, but you may rely upon it that they will be calm, self-poised and determined to do whatever they can to secure a peaceful solution of the present difficulties. If war must come it will not be their fault. And now let me add emphatically that, come what may, the Southern people will remain in the Union and true to the Union. They have tried secession, and they know it bore no fruit but bitterness. They will never try it again.

THE Norfolk *Virginian* reports that the steam launch of the *Hartford* got adrift at Norfolk, Dec. 9th, and a rope fouling her propeller she became unmanageable. The second ship's cutter, with fourteen men and Ensign Jas. T. Smith, went to the rescue, but became so benumbed with cold that they could not manage their boat, and were assisted by the steamer *Sue*, of the People's Line, Captain Geoghegan.

THE *Gettysburg* was at Gibraltar Nov. 24. She made search between Fayal and Gibraltar for the Doedalus rock, taking soundings over its reported position. The depth and character of the bottom indicate that if such a rock exists its position is incorrectly given. The facts in regard to the discovery of a coral bank by the *Gettysburg*, are as follows: When running a line of soundings from the Azores toward Cape St. Vincent, the *Gettysburg*, Lt. Commander Gorringer, discovered a bank on which she anchored in 34 fathoms, the least sounding obtained being 32 fathoms, bottom of live coral and rocks, Cape St. Vincent bearing N. 75 deg. E. (true) 130 1-2 miles distant. After running some lines of soundings the *Gettysburg* was obliged, in order to carry out her orders to search for Doedalus rock, which was not found, her coal being short, to proceed to Gibraltar, and will return and survey the bank. Lt. Commander Gorringer believed this bank (in lat. 26.29.42 N., long. 11.38.06 W.) to be identical with that reported by Ugarte in 1832 in lat. 36.38 N., long. 11.21.38 W., on which he found 3 to 3 1-2 fathoms and breakers. It is possible that the shoal may have sunk to the depth of 32 fathoms, but, in the opinion of Lt. Comdr. Gorringer, it is probable that dangerous ground exists in the vicinity of his anchorage. He bases this on the fact that coral insects rarely work below a depth of twenty fathoms, and cease to build only on reaching the surface. Soundings to the Westward and Eastward of this bank show 2,750 and 2,000 fathoms.

THE NAVY.

THE EDITOR invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movement of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE *Alliance* at Norfolk expects to be ready for her officers and crew by the 3d of Jan.

THE *Shawmut* will go out of commission about the 1st of Jan.

WE publish the report of the Secretary of the Navy in full this week. It will be found on page 299.

THE *Ranger* has been ordered from Philadelphia to Norfolk, to complete her ordnance outfit. She will then join the force under Rear-Admiral Trenchard at Hampton Roads.

ORDERS have been given to put the *Wyoming* in commission at Washington on the 20th Dec. She is not to have a full complement at present for sea service.

REAR-ADMIRAL JOHN L. WORDEN, commanding European Squadron, writes to the Department, on board the flagship *Marion*, Villafrañche, France, Nov. 24, 1876, and reports that during the recent passage of that vessel from Leghorn, she steamed 12 1-2 knots per hour against a considerable swell directly head, with 9-10ths of her boilers' power, and that the vessel was in all other respects in excellent condition.

THE Pacific Mail steamer *City of Peking*, sixteen days from Yokohama, arrived at San Francisco Dec. 12, and brings advices from Shanghai, Nov. 17 that the American bark *C. O. Whitmore*, lying in the harbor of Hong Kong, is watched by the United States ship *Kearsarge*. There is great excitement because Captain Peabody, First Mate Snow and Second Mate Stafford, of the *Whitmore*, cannot be held to answer for their alleged crimes, in consequence of the abrogation of the Extradition Treaty between England and America. The evidence appears conclusive that they practiced unprecedented cruelties on the crew during their recent voyage from Cardiff and tortured another mate, named Eilwood, to death. At an indignation meeting of the citizens, a resolution was passed requesting the Governor of Hong Kong to telegraph for permission to surrender the accused to the United States authorities. It is supposed that if the *Whitmore* attempts to escape the *Kearsarge* will follow and secure her in some port where no technical difficulties will interfere.

A WILMINGTON correspondent of the N. Y. *Herald* gives the following description of the launching of the rebuilt *Miantonomah*: About a year and a half ago the work of rebuilding the old wooden monitor *Miantonomah* was begun at John Roach's yard, near Chester, Pa. The task was so far finished to-day (Dec. 5) that the war ship was successfully relaunched at eleven minutes past three this afternoon. The *Miantonomah* was originally constructed of wooden frame at New York, being finished in 1864. Her first cruise was to Russia, where she took Assistant Secretary of the Navy Fox, starting in June of that year. After being absent a year she returned and was ordered to League Island. There she remained for some time, afterwards proceeding to Boston, where, in August, 1870, she was ordered out of commission of two Parrott guns of 200 pounds each, and two 15-inch smooth bore Dahlgren guns. Her motive power will consist of twin propellers 12 feet diameter, with a mean pitch of 10 feet, driven by two pairs of compound engines, with aggregate horse power of 2,500, with cylinders 31 inches and 54 inches, with 52 inch stroke. She will have six cylindrical boilers, with a working pressure of sixty pounds. Her coal capacity is 600 tons, and her estimated speed is to be fourteen knots. The launch passed off very successfully, the iron ship gliding smoothly off the ways amid the cheers of the crowds. Chief Hanscom, of the Navy Department, Naval Constructor Hartt and several other officials, were present. It is understood that Mr. Roach has advanced to the Government about \$200,000 to finish this vessel for the purpose of getting her out of the way, the appropriation of Congress not being sufficient, never having seen any warlike service, and being among the last of those hastily-built ironclad war vessels, which were not finished until the rebellion was over. She was broken up in 1875, and the work of entirely rebuilding her was begun immediately at the yard of John Roach and Sons. As finished now, she is constructed entirely of iron, and is of almost altogether new material, there being not enough of the old work in her to swear by. She has cost, for this work, about \$350,000. She is of double hull, entirely of iron material, except the lower deck. Her length between perpendiculars is 250 feet, over all 292 feet. Her beam, over armor, is 55 feet 3 1-2 inches, and the breadth of the inner hull is 49 feet 10 3-4 inches. The depth from main deck is 17 feet, depth between decks, 8 feet 1 inch, and the depth between the inner and outer hull at the centre is 3 feet 4 inches. Her displacement at 14 feet 6 inches draft will be 4,570 tons. The *Miantonomah* has two turrets, each 22 feet 11 inches outside diameter, of plating 13 inches thick. Her armament

cient to complete her. Work on the *Puritan*, another monitor, being rebuilt of iron, is going forward rapidly. She will be launched in the spring. She is of immense size, and will be the largest ironclad afloat.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 7.—Commander Wm. R. Bridgman, as Light-house Inspector of the Fourth District on the 1st January next.

Assistant Engineers George Cowie, Jr., and Charles P. Howell, to examination for promotion.

DECEMBER 8.—Pay Inspector Geo. L. Davis, to the Naval Asylum, Philadelphia, on the 1st January next.

Pay Inspector C. P. Walloch, as inspector of provisions and clothing at the Navy-yard, League Island, on the 1st January next.

DECEMBER 9.—Commander Bushrod B. Taylor, to duty as inspector of ordnance at the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 1st January next.

Commander George W. Haywood, to command the *Wyoming*, at Washington, D. C., on the 20th December.

Lieutenant A. H. Fletcher, to the *Wyoming* on the 20th December as executive.

Lieutenant W. H. Beecher, Masters J. C. Cresap and Lyman G. Spaulding; Ensigns Vincendon L. Cottman and C. B. T. Moore; Midshipmen Robert C. Ray, York Noell and F. J. Milligan, Surgeon J. H. Kidder, Passed Assistant Paymaster C. H. Bartlett, Boatswain Wm. Long, and Carpenter John J. Thomas, to the *Alliance*, at Norfolk, Va., on the 1st January next.

Chief Engineer S. L. P. Ayres, Assistant Engineers Wm. Rowbotham and Walter Shevall, to the *Alliance*, at Norfolk, Va., on the 30th December.

DECEMBER 11.—Commander Jas. N. Miller, to duty in the Bureau of Yards and Docks at Washington on the 15th December.

Lieutenant-Commander A. H. Wright, to assume the command of the *Michigan*.

Lieutenant W. S. Cowles, to the *Tennessee*, Asiatic Station, via Europe.

Ensign Charles W. Deering, to duty on the Asiatic Station, per steamer of 1st January next from San Francisco, Cal.

Paymaster Geo. W. Benham, to the *Franklin*, at New York.

Chief Engineer O. H. Lackey, to the *Wyoming*, at Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 12.—Lieutenant R. E. Carmody, to the Navy yard, New York.

Lieutenant E. S. Houston, to the Nautical School Ship *James town*, at San Francisco, Cal.

Assistant Surgeon Howard Wells, to examination for promotion.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 7.—Commander Geo. B. White, from duty as Light-house Inspector of the Fourth District on the 1st January next, and placed on waiting orders.

Boatswain Edward Kenney, from the Navy-yard, League Island, Pa., and ordered to the *St. Louis*.

DECEMBER 8.—Lieutenant-Commander Fredk. Pearson, from special duty connected with the Centennial Exhibition, and ordered to report to the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance for duty.

Pay director John S. Gulick, from the Naval Asylum, Philadelphia, on the 1st January next, and ordered to settle accounts.

Paymaster Arthur Burts, from the Navy-yard, League Island, Pa., on the 1st January next, and ordered to settle accounts.

DECEMBER 9.—Commander Theodore F. Kane, from special duty, and ordered to command the *Alliance*, at Norfolk, Va., on the 20th December.

Lieutenant Charles Seymour, from the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to the *Alliance* on the 1st January next.

Lieutenant Royal B. Bradford, from the Torpedo Station, and ordered to the *Alliance*, at Norfolk, on the 30th December, as executive.

DECEMBER 11.—Commander Chas. H. Cushman, from the command of the *Michigan*, and placed on waiting orders.

Commander Geo. Brown, from duty as inspector of ordnance at the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to duty under the Bureau of Yards and Docks at that yard.

Commander George C. Remy, from duty in the Bureau of Yards and Docks on the 15th December, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant B. L. Edes, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the *Huron*, at Port Royal, S. C., as executive.

Lieutenants S. M. Ackley and J. J. Hunker, and Master H. T. Stockton, from the *Michigan*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant John S. Newell, from the *Huron*, and ordered as instructor at the Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I.

Ensign A. L. Case, Jr., from special duty at Newport, R. I., and ordered to duty on the Asiatic Station, per steamer of 1st January next from San Francisco.

Assistant Paymaster John C. Burnet, from the *Franklin*, and ordered to settle accounts.

DECEMBER 12.—Lieutenant N. T. Houston, from the Nautical School Ship *James town*, at San Francisco, Cal., and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant Wm. H. Emory, from special duty connected with the Centennial Exposition on the 15th December, and ordered to duty at the Naval Academy on the 5th January next.

Master M. E. Hall, from the receiving ship *Independence*, at Mare Island, Cal., and granted three months' leave.

Medical Director Joseph Wilson, Acting Passed Assistant Surgeon F. V. Greene, Paymaster F. A. Arms, Chief Engineer J. W. Thomson, and Naval Constructor Edward Hartt, from duty connected with the Centennial Exposition on the 15th December, and placed on waiting orders.

DECEMBER 13.—Lieutenant R. T. Jasper, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., and ordered to duty at the Naval Academy.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Lieutenant A. J. Iverson, attached to the *Minnesota*, at New York, for one month from December 15.

To Lieutenant Geo. W. De Long, attached to the Nautical School Ship *James town*, at New York, for two months from December 11, with permission to leave the United States.

To Ensign Edward J. Dorn for three months from Dec. 13.

ORDERS REVOKED.

The orders of Commander A. T. Mahan, of the 4th December, to duty at the Naval Academy, and placed on waiting orders.

The orders of Commander James O'Keefe, detaching him from the Naval Academy, and to continue on duty there.

The orders of Lieutenant A. H. Fletcher to the *Wyoming*, and ordered to the *Huron*, at Port Royal, S. C., as executive.

The orders of Lieutenant B. L. Edes to the *Huron*, and ordered to the *Wyoming*, at Washington, on the 30th December, as executive.

REPORTED FOR DUTY.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Curtis H. Thomson, on board the training ship *Monongahela*, at Baltimore, on the 11th December.

DROPPED.

Ensign Colin McDonald, having failed to pass examination for promotion.

DISMISSED.

Boatswain Ansell Keen.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week, ending December 13, 1876:

George Coan, beneficiary, December 8, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

CHANGES IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC STATION.

NOVEMBER 16.—Ensign Charles E. Fox detached from the *Hartford* and ordered to the *Adams*.

NOVEMBER 30.—Midshipman W. G. Hannum detached from the *Hartford* and ordered to the *Essex*.

NAVAL NOMINATIONS TO THE SENATE.

Commodore Edward Donaldson to be a Rear-Admiral in the Navy from Sept. 21, 1876, vice Rear-Admiral Alexander M. Pennock, deceased.

Commodore George H. Preble to be a Rear-Admiral in the Navy from Sept. 30, 1876, vice Rear-Admiral Edward Donaldson, retired.

Commodore Edward Middleton to be a Rear-Admiral in the Navy on the retired list from Aug. 15, 1876, in conformity to the act of Congress of that date.

Captain Robert W. Shufeldt to be a Commodore in the Navy from Sept. 21, 1876, vice Commodore Edward Donaldson, promoted.

Captain Alexander C. Rhind to be a Commodore in the Navy from Sept. 30, 1876, vice Commodore George H. Preble, promoted.

Commander Wm. P. McCann to be a Captain in the Navy from Sept. 21, 1876, vice Captain Robert W. Shufeldt, promoted.

Commander James H. Gillis to be a Captain in the Navy from Sept. 30, 1876, vice Captain Alexander C. Rhind, promoted.

Commander William E. Fitzhugh to be a Captain in the Navy from Nov. 25, 1876, vice Captain Paul Shirley, deceased.

Lieutenant-Commander James D. Graham to be a Commander in the Navy from Sept. 9, 1876, vice Commander A. T. Snell, deceased.

Lieutenant-Commander William R. Bridgman to be a Commander in the Navy from Sept. 21, 1876, vice Commander William P. McCann, promoted.

Lieutenant-Commander Alexander H. McCormick to be a Commander in the Navy from Sept. 30, 1876, vice Commander James H. Gillis, promoted.

Lieutenant-Commander Henry L. Johnson to be a Commander in the Navy from Nov. 25, 1876, vice Commander William E. Fitzhugh, promoted.

Master Theodor Porter to be a Lieutenant in the Navy from Aug. 22, 1876, vice Lieutenant-Commander Horace E. Mullan, dropped.

Master Daniel D. V. Stuart to be a Lieutenant in the Navy from Sept. 9, 1876, vice Lieutenant-Commander James D. Graham, promoted.

Master John H. Moore to be a Lieutenant in the Navy from Sept. 21, 1876, vice Lieutenant-Commander William R. Bridgman, promoted.

Master Kossuth Niles to be a Lieutenant in the Navy from Sept. 30, 1876, vice Lieutenant-Commander Alexander H. McCormick, promoted.

Ensign Walter S. French to be a Master in the Navy from Aug. 22, 1876, vice Master Theodor Porter, promoted.

Ensign Thomas S. Plunket to be a Master in the Navy from Sept. 9, 1876, vice Master Daniel D. V. Stuart, promoted.

Ensign Downes L. Wilson to be a Master in the Navy from Sept. 21, 1876, vice Master John H. Moore, promoted.

Ensign James C. Cresap to be a Master in the Navy from Sept. 30, 1876, vice Master Kossuth Niles, promoted.

Ensign Alphonso H. Cobb to be a Master in the Navy from Oct. 9, 1876, vice Master W. H. Beecher, promoted.

Ensign Ascher G. Baker to be a Master in the Navy from Dec. 6, 1876, vice Colin McDonald, dropped.

Midshipman John W. Beane to be an Ensign in the Navy from July 16, 1876.

Midshipmen George H. Peters, Bradley A. Fluke, Frank H. Holmes, John W. Stewart, Henry F. Reich, Lucian Flynn, John F. Parker, Hamilton Hutchins, John M. Bowyer, John C. Colwell, William R. A. Rooney, Matthew G. Reynolds, George E. Hutton, Edward J. Dorn, Winslow Alderdice, William E. Whitfield, Charles W. Haskell, Bernard O. Scott, Lyman Arms, Frederick W. Danner, David Penock, Edwin L. Reynolds, John O. Nicholson and George F. Emmons to be Ensigns in the Navy from July 17, 1876, to fill vacancies.

Millard H. Crawford to be an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy from Nov. 1, 1876, to fill a vacancy.

James C. Byrnes to be an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy from Nov. 4, 1876, to fill a vacancy.

George P. Lumsden to be an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy from Nov. 2, 1876, to fill a vacancy.

Frank C. Dade to be an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy from Nov. 6, 1876, to fill a vacancy.

Paymaster Henry M. Denniston to be a Pay Inspector in the Navy from Aug. 19, 1876, vice Pay Inspector R. C. Spaulding, dismissed.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Henry T. Skelding to be a Paymaster in the Navy from Aug. 19, 1876, vice Paymaster Henry M. Denniston, promoted.

Assistant Paymaster Curtis H. Thomson to be a Passed Assistant Paymaster in the Navy from Aug. 19, 1876, vice Passed Assistant Paymaster Henry T. Skelding, promoted.

Thomas D. Hoxsey, Jr., to be an Assistant Paymaster in the Navy from Sept. 1, 1876, vice Assistant Paymaster Curtis H. Thomson, promoted.

Pay Inspector James Fulton to be a Pay Director in the Navy from Aug. 23, 1876, vice Pay Director C. C. Jackson, retired.

Paymaster Richard Washington to be a Pay Inspector in the Navy from Aug. 23, 1876, vice Pay Inspector James Fulton, promoted.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Charles W. Slamm to be a Paymaster in the Navy from Aug. 23, 1876, vice Paymaster Richard Washington, promoted.

Assistant Paymaster John C. Burnet to be a Passed Assistant Paymaster in the Navy from Aug. 23, 1876, vice Passed Assistant Paymaster Charles W. Slamm, promoted.

Hiram E. Drury to be an Assistant Paymaster in the Navy from Sept. 8, 1876, vice Assistant Paymaster John C. Burnet, promoted.

Charles W. Littlefield to be an Assistant Paymaster in the Navy from Sept. 8, 1876, vice Assistant Paymaster N. H. Stavey, retired.

Richard Hayward to be a Chaplain in the Navy from Oct. 2, 1876, vice Chaplain George W. Smith, resigned.

James R. Soley to be a Professor of Mathematics in the Navy from Aug. 18, 1876, vice Professor H. H. Lockwood, retired.

Isaac S. K. Reeves to be an Assistant Engineer in the Navy from June 30, 1876, to fill a vacancy.

Assistant Engineer Thomas J. W. Cooper to be a Passed Assistant Engineer in the Navy from July 6, 1876, to fill a vacancy.

George W. Snyder to be an Assistant Engineer in the Navy from Oct. 9, 1876, to fill a vacancy.

MARINE CORPS.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles G. McCawley to be Colonel Commandant of the Marine Corps from Nov. 1, 1876, vice Brigadier-General and Commandant Marine Corps Jacob Zellin, retired.

Major Thomas V. Field to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Marine Corps from Nov. 1, 1876, vice Lieutenant-Colonel Charles G. McCawley, nominated for promotion.

Captain Charles Heywood to be a Major in the Marine Corps from Nov. 1, 1876, vice Major Thomas V. Field, nominated for promotion.

First Lieutenant Charles F. Williams to be a Captain in the Marine Corps from Nov. 1, 1876, vice Captain Charles Heywood, nominated for promotion.

Second Lieutenant Benjamin R. Russell to be a First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps from Nov. 1, 1876, vice First Lieutenant Chas. F. Williams, nominated for promotion.

First Lieutenant William Wallace to be a Captain in the Marine Corps from Oct. 3, 1876, vice Captain J. F. Baker, deceased.

Second Lieutenant Samuel H. Gibson to be a First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps from Oct. 3, 1876, vice First Lieutenant Wm. Wallace, nominated for promotion.

CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz.:

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 7.—Second Lieutenant W. S. Schenck, from Marine Barracks, Mare Island, Cal., to proceed to New York, and report arrival by letter to headquarters.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

DECEMBER 4.—To Second Lieutenant P. St. C. Murphy for one month from December 9.

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General Sherman, U. S. Army, and lady, Washington, D. C.;
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Geo. Sykes, U. S. Army; Brig.-Gen. I. N. Palmer, U. S. Army,
Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, U. S. Army;
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Major E. D. Judd, paymaster U. S. Army, is en route to San
Augustine, Fla., where he proposes to spend the winter for the
benefit of his health.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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EDITORIAL PAGE.

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MILITARY DESPOTISM.

EUROPE has not yet recovered from the astonish-
ment with which it witnessed the spectacle,
at the close of our great war, of a million of soldiers
laying down their arms and returning, each to the
pursuit of peaceful industry, undisturbed by those
dreams of military ambition which had threatened
the stability of the Republic only in the hopes of its
ill wishers. This spectacle is too fresh in the recol-
lection of our countrymen to permit them to be dis-
turbed by the fears of military despotism which
political alarmists seek to awaken for the accomplish-
ment of their selfish purposes. What a million men
in arms did not dream of, our little Army of less
than thirty thousand will surely not undertake. The
men who are now in command of that little Army
are the same who controlled the vast force at the
close of the Rebellion, of which it was the nucleus.
It was under their direction that it was reduced to
its present dimensions; not only without re-
monstrance on their part—except as to the last re-
duction of five thousand—but in pursuance of their
positive recommendation. GRANT, SHERMAN and
SHERIDAN may each and all be guilty of errors of
judgment, but that they will undertake, either
singly or together, to perpetrate the folly of inaugu-
rating a revolution against the American system, is a
story for the marines. It would be unworthy of
notice had it not formed the staple of so much
newspaper eloquence of denunciation. One paper,
indeed, has made the alarming discovery that the
real marplot in the business of revolution is General
SHERMAN, who proposes, with the help of his brother,
the Senator, to establish his foot upon the neck of
the American people. He is much more likely to be
found applying the toe of it to the person of the
mendacious scribbler who indulges in this foolish
talk.

It is undoubtedly the misfortune of the Army
that it should have been compelled to take so prom-
inent a part in the election disturbances at the
South. This has subjected it to inevitable criticism
which misrepresents its spirit and purposes. That
officers should make mistakes of method in carrying
out general instructions, which left to them so large
a margin of discretion, was hardly more than might
have been expected. It is unfortunate that they
should not in all cases have sufficiently considered,
as it seems to us, the just susceptibilities of citizens,
always jealous of the slightest interference by the
men in uniform with the course of civil administra-
tion. It might have been made clearer, we think,
even in South Carolina, that the Army was at hand
only as the last resort to maintain the peace. The use
of soldiers to do constables' work is always and every-
where a misfortune, and where anything less than
the most imperative necessity compels, it is a mis-
take for which it is inevitable that the Army, as a
whole, should be held to a strict accountability.

But that an isolated instance of this sort means the
overthrow of the liberties of forty millions of people
with arms in their hands is the dream of a fanatic.
The men whose experience of personal service on one
side or the other during the rebellion is still fresh in
recollection are not those who indulge in this talk.
It is rather those who were, as Mr. BEN HILL, of
Georgia, says of them, "invisible in war and in-
vincible in peace."

THE reopening of the Eastern question is bringing
home to England some important truths concerning
her impotence in continental affairs. The *Russki*
Mir tells her that she is harmless to Russia "so long
as she has no continental allies; and she will not
find any, for the Napoleonic régime in France has
fallen, and no other European State is disposed to
follow its disastrous example. The great Powers of
the Continent must attach far greater importance to
the maintenance of their mutual relations than to the
alliance of a commercial nation which, being sepa-
rated from them by the sea, holds aloof from the
system of continental politics." It is easy, the *Mir*
argues, for an insular Power to defy continental
States, but Germany and Russia, with their colos-
sal armies, have nothing to fear from ironclads
which are powerless to attack their shores, or from
the small English army of soldiers who serve for
pay. "England may well boast that she is ready
for war, for she does not require much time to mo-
bilize her insignificant military force and to send her
fleet to sea. Sweden and Denmark may also say,
with equal good reason, that they are ready for war;
but the question is whether England is able to enter
into a successful conflict with Russia for the achieve-
ment of a fixed political object. We may leave the
sea to the English, and in the meanwhile we can
quietly destroy the Turks on land, or allow them to
escape in English ships. We can raise an insurrec-
tion in India, from Persia and Khokand; and we can
destroy England's maritime trade by the help of a
few cruisers, while the English ironclads will en-
deavor in vain to approach the torpedo-protected har-
bors of the Black Sea and the Baltic. Our railway
communications would make a successful landing of
English troops on Russian territory as impracticable
as one of Russian troops on English territory."

THE Havana correspondent of the *New York Sun*
reports that Spain has really made a gigantic effort.
She has landed in Cuba since September 20, 20,923
men, and there are about 3,000 more on the way.
This relatively enormous number of men was mobil-
ized, organized, and embarked within thirty days,
and transported in Spanish vessels. In all twenty-
five detachments left the ports of Santander, Barce-
lona, Cadiz, and Alicante. Before the arrival of the
24,000 men there were not 40,000 well men in the
Spanish army, and their effective force is reduced by
a draft of 35,000 to maintain fortified camps, to keep
open communications, and to defend towns and
cities closely surrounded by Cubans ready to take
advantage of any weakening of the garrisons. A
large force is also required to garrison some six hun-
dred sugar plantations, the preservation of which is
of most vital consequence to the Spanish exchequer.
It is believed that never since the war began has
sickness in the Spanish rank been so general and so
fatal as it is at present. The ravages of yellow fever,
typhus, and small-pox are reported as fearful. Of
the newly-arrived troops 15,000 are from the northern
provinces of Spain, utterly unused to tropical heat.
The military surgeons who come out with the troops
know little or nothing of the diseases of this country,
and the means at their command for the cure of the
sick and wounded are very meagre. On the other
side, the Cubans have an army of 25,000, acclimated,
well armed, thoroughly accustomed to this peculiar
class of war. They have no towns, no lines of com-
munication, even, to guard; they live on the coun-
try; they know every inch of it. This force is dis-
tributed, 8,000 in the Eastern Department, principally
occupied in investing the cities of Santiago, Bu-
gamo, Holguin and Manzanillo; 5,000 in Camaguey,
where the Cuban government is located, and the
main body, 12,000, in the Villos Department. In
the opinion of this correspondent the Spaniards have
no prospect of accomplishing anything effective with
their reinforcement of 24,000 men.

THE following sensible remarks occur in the report of the Secretary of War, published in our last issue: "It is unnecessary to speak here of the size or organization of the Army, for the 'whole subject of reform and re-organization of the Army' has been referred, by the act of July 24, 1876, to a commission consisting of two members from each house of Congress, the Secretary of War, and two officers of the Army. This commission met on the 11th of August, and has since collected a large mass of valuable statistics and opinions bearing upon the questions before it. These are now under consideration, and after full deliberation the report will be made up and presented to you for transmittal to Congress. It is hoped that the convictions of a commission containing such distinguished officers as Generals SHERMAN and MEIGS, and Senators and Representatives of experience both in military and legislative affairs, will receive from Congress the consideration to which they are entitled, and that a comprehensive organic act may be framed for the Army which shall relieve it in the future from much of the special legislation which in so many cases is very detrimental to its discipline and efficiency." The italics are our own. It is just such a commission as this that we recommend, as "the sovereign'st thing on earth," for the "inward bruises" of the Navy. The simple effect of its putting an end to ill-judged legislation, so "detrimental to discipline and efficiency," is, alone, sufficient argument in favor of having the subject of "reform and reorganization" of the Navy, referred to an association of legislators and experts, free from the labors and distractions inseparable from a session of Congress.

WE commend to the attention of members of Congress what our English cotemporary *Broad Arrow* has to say, of repairing ships, as follows: "If we have to keep up a certain effective strength, and we cannot do it wholly by new additions, we must continue to repair old ships as they need it, even if we appear to be wasting money in the process. Ships will decay, and the probability is that in proportion to the increase of their original cost will be the increase of the sums required for their repair. We do not mean that the two items will simply be in exact proportion, but that deterioration will be so rapid as to make the expense of repair proportionately greater than that of original cost. For instance, let 24 be the cost of an old man-of-war of any past type in use, or altogether obsolete. The cost of repairs to keep the vessel in good service might be expressed by the figure 8. Take a modern ship, costing what we express by the figures 40, and the cost of repairs will rise to 18 or 22. This may be inevitable, and if it be so, no arithmetical computations as to cost or waste will make repair impolitic. The materials are more expensive, the machinery is of a higher class, the actual fighting power is more valuable. It would be wiser to keep a vessel of this type in good condition, even if it cost half its original sum, than to suffer its costly materials to go on rapidly deteriorating until the whole would not be worth the sum denied for repairs."

THE Secretary of the Navy transmitted to the House of Representatives on the 11th instant the report of the Board, appointed under an act passed at the last session of Congress, to inquire into the expediency of abolishing some of the Navy-yards. The Board recommend the retention of all the Navy stations except the following: Navy-yard, New London; naval ground, New Orleans; naval property, Brunswick, Ga. All these they recommend to be dispensed with and abandoned. The Board see no reason at present to recommend a permanent station at Cockspur, Tybee Island, or Brunswick. The ground at the latter place is wholly unsuited for a navy-yard. The harbor of Port Royal and its tributaries possesses great advantages. The harbor is considered, by the Board, the finest on the coast. There are several favorable sites for a naval station at Port Royal, all of which must be carefully studied and compared before the best can be selected. In the meantime, the Board recommend that Port Royal be used as a temporary fitting and coaling station for the vessels stationed in the West Indies. This could be done by keeping a few old ships there, on board which temporary machinery could be erected for the repair of vessels, engines, and boilers. A depot for coal on

shore, or in bulks, and a hospital and ordnance ship could be established, and could be removed at a moment's notice. Accompanying the report is a copy of the minutes and proceedings of the Board.

AFTER a long debate, the Senate, on the 6th of December, adopted a resolution asking the President, whether the troops of the United States were stationed in the City of Petersburg, Va., Nov. 7, 1876, "and if so, under what authority and for what purpose?" The House adopted a resolution inquiring by what authority of law it was proposed to remove the Sioux from their reservation, and what it is going to cost; and a resolution calling for full information as to the use of troops in the South and further asking whether there has been any increase in the Cavalry force on the Texan frontier, and whether any troops have been removed from that State, and whether their places have been supplied by others. The House also instructed its Committee on Appropriations to ascertain whether the appropriation for artificial limbs has really been exhausted, and if so report a deficiency bill at once. A bill to appropriate "waiting orders" pay to the Navy officers affected by Navy Dept. G. O. No. 216, and to repeal section 1442 R. S., authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to furlough officers, was introduced by unanimous consent and referred to the Naval Committee. The Pension and the Fortification appropriation bills were introduced and the Pension bill passed. A bill for the relief of Capt. JOHN F. McGINNIS, 13th Infantry, was passed.

THE Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department, have just published a new system of Light Artillery Tactics, by Lieut. THOMAS B. MASON, U. S. N. The new features are a drill adapted to all the different guns in the Naval Service; arming the numbers not actually necessary to the working of the gun with rifles, that they may become the Infantry reserve of the pieces, and that they may be employed as skirmishers, to cover a movement, or to protect the battery from the enemy's skirmishers, its most dangerous foe; the withdrawal of all fire arms from the men actually necessary in serving the piece, that they may learn to put their whole dependence in their guns. The system of deploying the battery, in order to take advantage of all cover for the guns, to cover more front, if necessary, to concentrate, if necessary, in fact, to make the battery as mobile as a line of skirmishers. These changes have been made to meet the most modern ideas in regard to the use of light artillery in the field. They are in advance of anything thus far published either here or abroad.

WE find that some errors have crept into our List of Stations of the U. S. Navy, which have, however, been corrected by the information published each week elsewhere. We insert this week, on our first page, the list corrected down to date.

WIDOWS' RELIEF FUND.

WE add the extracts which follow, from letters recently received, as the best means of conveying to the generous contributors to the Widows' Fund, the thanks with which we are charged by those they have remembered in their bereavement.

Mrs. MAGGIE E. CALHOUN, writes from Monroe, Mich., Dec. 5, 1876, as follows:

"Will you please convey to the many friends to whom I am indebted, my heartfelt thanks for the kind and generous testimonial of their sympathy of which I have been the recipient. My delay in acknowledging the receipt thereof has been unavoidable, which I trust you will pardon. Allow me to thank you for your letter and for the interest you have manifested in our behalf."

Mrs. ANNIE GIBSON YATES writes from Monroe, Mich., Dec. 2, 1876, as follows:

"I am totally unable to put in language, my gratitude and appreciation for this noble evidence of a nation's tribute to our bereavement, but I must express my thanks, even though the expression may be faint in comparison with what I feel. I also bear in mind to whom we owe the prompting of this generous gift, and realize the labor and anxiety you must have had in taking charge of so large a benefaction. Accept my sincere thanks for the delicate manner in which you have attended to this mission, and if you

will kindly express for me my heartfelt appreciation to those who have so generously befriended us, you will add to your other great act of kindness."

ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Received for week ending Dec. 14.

Officers and enlisted men, Co. I, 7th Cavalry (Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.), \$88; acknowledged last week, \$60. 328 00
Capt. H. J. Nowlan, \$10; 1st Sergt. DeLacy, \$5; Sergts. G. Gaffney \$5, B. L. Murphy \$2, M. Caddoe \$2, McCall \$1, S. McNally \$5; Corp. W. Costello \$3, P. Lynch \$5, C. H. Bishop \$1, Burkitt \$1; Trpr. Bovis, \$1; Privates F. Angel \$1, E. B. Cronley \$1, C. M. Conlsten \$1, G. W. Dismore \$1, L. Davis \$1, St. Elwood \$5, S. Fisher \$1, T. Garmon \$1, A. Grimes \$1, G. Geesbacher \$1, P. Hagenbach \$1, F. Heeler \$1, J. Hill \$1, C. P. Harter \$1, P. Hoong \$1, P. D. Frame \$1, G. Veron \$1, S. McGinness \$3.50; J. Mayer \$1, S. Myls \$1, S. Minich \$1, W. S. McFeeters \$1, A. Malch \$1, C. Overton \$1, E. Penney \$1, J. L. Patterson \$1, J. Rotis \$1, C. Hanton \$1, W. Saas \$1, G. W. Smith \$1, G. Smith \$1, C. Smith \$1, A. Terry \$1, F. Thomas \$1, H. P. Thomas \$1, A. Treesh \$1, S. Worthington \$1, H. Williams \$1, T. Witter \$1, Aiden Young \$1, Ailsius Young \$1, Zehnder \$1.

Enlisted men, Co. B, 8th Infantry (Camp Verde, A. T.)... 35 00
1st Sergt. G. W. Webb, \$1; Sergts. J. Nutty \$1, P. Reilly \$1, A. C. Beck \$1, W. R. Alexander \$1; Corp. O. W. Winthrop \$1, W. F. Yost \$1, J. W. Minchlin \$1, H. Wilkins \$1; Mus. J. Carr \$1; Privates J. Hank \$1, P. Hamilton \$1, W. Howell \$1, R. Hopeke \$1, M. Mahoney \$1, W. Moller \$1, G. A. Mensch \$1, J. C. Nicol \$1, M. O'Byrne \$1, H. Obermeyer \$1, R. Parsons \$5 cts., F. H. Ray \$1, A. Roebat \$1, W. Ryan \$5 cts., T. Scollins \$1, W. Smith (lat) \$1, W. Smith (2d) \$1, C. A. Stevens \$1, A. Van Evra \$5 cts., J. H. Werra \$1, M. Wheelan \$5 cts., S. White \$1, J. Wool \$1; Mrs. Hank \$1, Mrs. Kopeke \$1, Mrs. Rochat and children \$2.

Officers and enlisted men Co. L, 6th Cavalry (Camp Bowie, A. T.)... 51 50
Officers Co. L, 6th Cav. Capt. C. W. McLellan, \$10; 1st Sergt. J. Bingen, \$3; Sergts. F. Baker \$2, D. Robinson \$2, H. Ralph \$2; Corp. G. Strub \$1.50, E. Howard \$1; Trpr. C. F. Reed \$2; Blacksmith N. Maringer \$1; Saddler H. Willis \$1; Privates J. H. Noebaum \$2, A. Vanzant \$1, F. Haley \$2, M. Walsh \$2, J. P. Eagan \$1, C. T. Spaul \$1, G. W. Davis \$5 cts., R. Reed \$1, F. Heany \$5 cts., H. F. Klingley \$1, T. T. Sloan \$1, F. McDonald \$1, G. F. Hahn \$5 cts., M. Lavantowsky \$1, J. A. Bayers \$1, W. Goenrock \$2, W. Roberts \$2, D. Scully \$1, H. Smith \$5 cts., J. B. Curry \$1, M. S. Owens \$2, W. North \$1.

Officers and enlisted men Co. C, 6th Cavalry (Camp Grant, A. T.)... 77 00
Capt. D. Madden \$5; Lieut. T. A. Toney \$5; Sergts. J. M. Warner \$1, G. H. Eldridge \$2, G. W. Horton \$1, C. A. Howard \$1, J. Zellar \$1, J. Muller \$3; Corp. G. W. Dixon \$1, E. Ham \$1, J. V. Dungan \$2; Privates B. S. Caley \$1, H. Lewis \$1, G. D. Thomas \$1, B. Conners \$5, J. Brady \$1; Corp. G. Elliott \$1; Privates T. Dotter \$1, J. D. Bacon \$1, J. Dugan \$1, J. Ward \$1, E. Britt \$1, A. Benninger \$1, J. Devins \$2, B. Weed \$1, H. O. Driscoll \$1, A. B. Leach \$1, D. Day \$1, J. P. Purcell \$2, F. S. Cammer \$1, J. Franklin \$1, W. Baird \$1, J. Morehead \$3, C. Sing \$1, J. Brock \$1, G. Garland \$1, N. Bouers \$1, F. Pierce \$1, G. N. Flynt \$1, T. Donnelly \$2, H. Kranzlein \$1, L. Blackwell \$1, H. Korstes \$1, D. Daly \$2, P. H. Chambers \$1, W. Barry \$1, D. Miller \$1, M. O'Hare \$1, J. Berger \$1; Stewart and Norton, post traders, \$5; Mr. B. Norton \$1.

Lieut. Park Custer, 9th Cavalry... 5 00
Officers and enlisted men Battery I, 2d Artillery (Fort Dodge, Kas.)... 45 75
1st Lt. A. C. Taylor \$3; 1st Sgt. J. H. Sullivan \$2; Scte. J. Muller \$5 cts., P. H. Cassidy \$1, F. McCourt \$5 cts., W. A. Johnson \$2; Corp. H. Donaldson \$1, G. W. Green \$1, J. C. Costello \$1, J. O'Brien \$1, J. W. Hyron \$5 cts., Mus. F. Pommorobne \$5 cts.; Privates H. W. Allum \$1, J. A. Bartley \$5 cts., W. Bogardus \$1, J. H. Cronan \$5 cts., J. Coons \$5 cts., W. Champion \$5 cts., F. Donnelly \$5 cts., T. Doyle \$5 cts., H. Darr \$5 cts., E. Early \$5 cts., M. Flynn \$1, T. Glouster \$1, B. Hannon \$5 cts., W. Hill \$5 cts., W. Jackson \$1, W. Kenney \$1, W. Kral \$5 cts., D. Leahy \$1, P. McCoy \$1, H. J. Manley \$1, J. Mahony \$1, W. H. Madden \$1, C. Meister \$1, T. Newham \$1, M. Nagle \$1, A. A. Ogle \$5 cts., S. M. Trosser \$1, M. Rutz \$1, Z. Royal \$1, J. Rose \$1, E. Ritterhouse \$1, D. Reuberger \$1, W. Ryan \$5 cts., G. Shurland \$5 cts., Hor. Smith \$1, Hy. Smith \$1, O. Stuhmke \$1, P. Walsh \$5 cts., P. Welsh \$1, T. Cunningham \$5 cts.

Sergeant J. B. Buckholdt, Co. C, 10th Infantry (no list received)... 30 00
E. D. Judd, Major and Paymaster, U. S. A. 10 00
S. M. Horton, Surgeon, U. S. A. 10 00
Fifth Cavalry Headquarters, Staff and Companies A, B, F, and I, Fort D. A. Russell, W. T. (list next week)... 239 25
Fourteenth Infantry, officers and privates of Co. H (list next week)... 189 00

Amount received for week ending Dec. 14... \$730 57
Subscriptions previously acknowledged... \$11,335 50

Aggregate... \$12,066 00
Less amount assigned to Widows and Orphans, Nov. 25... 9,410 00

Balance to credit of Fund... \$2,656 00

La Revue des Deux Mondes of Nov. 1, 1876, in an article entitled "La Marine de la France et son Budget," complains that the naval service of France is going to the devil. "The personnel suffers, the matériel is behindhand and insufficient. France possesses all the elements of a powerful marine, and yet our marine is not what it should be." The budget has been reduced from an average of \$42,000,000 in 1860 to 1870 to less than \$30,000,000 in 1873. The consequence is that the number of ships afloat has been reduced, and that the lieutenant who used to pass four years at sea and two on land now passes two at sea and four ashore, on reduced pay, at one of the ports, where he has no opportunity of distinguishing himself, no chance of promotion. As for superior officers, the case is much the same. In 1864 there were 275 commands, and now there are only 115. The cadres are to be gradually reduced, but this diminution will not be felt for a long time. At present, out of 110 post-captains only 29 command ships, and out of 742 lieutenants only 278 are afloat. The iron-clad squadron ill supplies the place of the old squadron of evolutions. Coal being expensive, the ships are moved about as little as possible, and as it is difficult to handle iron-clads under sail, and the slightest accident is extremely costly, there is very little navigating; the captain is always on the look-out himself, and the lieutenants get no chance of handling the ship.

THE pool sellers of New York, led by John Morrissey, have declared the bets on the general result of the Presidential election off, and are returning the money, less three per cent. commission.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

OUR GODDESS OF THE COIN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Considering the important light coins have thrown upon history, and the effect they have upon the sentiments of the people who use them, cannot we make up our minds to abandon the half clad, wry-necked woman who wears her night-cap on a stick; and make our mintage illustrate our history and bear witness of our life and thought.

We have passed the time of life when swaddling clothes can be worn with propriety, and the time never was when any American could willingly go to that coined woman for pap. She represents nothing to us. She is not the kind of thing Americans worship. She may sit by the wayside and watch for who is coming forever without exciting an emotion, suggesting a thought or recording a fact worth a free man's attention.

Our belief is that she is our stepmother and married the old man for his money. And she is more than welcome to turn her head over her shoulder. But if she would go wandering around in such light clothes, there is a vengeful pleasure in the fancy that the stone she is sitting on is just as cold as she is. The quicker she gets out of the way and stops bothering us, the better.

But what good can we expect from the American mint except julep?

With great reverence for American and contempt for foreign goddesses, Yours very truly,

B. J. LE BALC.

THE GOODENOUGH HORSESHOE.

AN officer of cavalry, who decidedly differs with the Board of Officers which recommended the Goodenough Horseshoe, presents us with a statement of his objections to the use of the shoe. He says:

"The suspensory ligaments have their origin at the head of the metacarpal or cannon bone (proper bone of the leg) and run down in rear to the sesamoid bones which articulate with the fetlock-joint. Upon reaching the sesamoids a portion of them finds an assertion there; the other part continues over those bones down to the lower pastern, where it ends in another fastening. These ligaments are elastic, and through violence or unnatural strain or tension are sometimes ruptured, from the effects of which the horse rarely if ever thoroughly recovers.

"The back sinews (tendons of the perforating and perforated flexor muscles) are inelastic and as liable to sprain as the suspensory ligaments just described are to rupture. Shoeing has an all-powerful influence on both. If properly done there is but little danger of injury. After a brief consideration of the hoof and its contents I shall endeavor to show why, in my opinion, the horse cannot be properly shod with the Goodenough shoe.

"Filling about half the space, and situated in the forepart of the hoof is the coffin-bone, or proper bone of the foot, which articulates with the lower-pastern, and navicular-bone. The former has two wings or projections running back to the heel, directly under which, in the angle formed by the crust and bars, is the seat of the corn, which in shoeing should be protected from the possibility of bruise. In a state of nature the foot of the horse is accurately flat, or rather that portion of it which comes in contact with the ground (the crust) is flat—designed so, that the concussion it receives from the immense weight pressed upon it may be distributed over as wide a surface as possible. The demands of domestication have nailed on to the hoof an inflexible iron fetter, which, to preserve the natural level of the foot, should also be perfectly flat—the same thickness from toe to heel. This is one of the fundamental principles of horseshoeing; but, unfortunately for the horse, it has been entirely ignored and lost sight of by the inventor of the Goodenough shoe, it being a little in excess of just twice as thick at the toe as at the heel, which of course lowers the heel below its natural level, and the consequence is an abnormal and constant tension on the flexor tendons and suspensory ligament, which if persevered in will result in serious and not impossibly incurable lameness. The navicular-joint over which the flexor tendon passes before its insertion into the coffin-bone is peculiarly liable to arthritis, and the unnatural tightening of the tendon caused by lowering the heels is one of the more frequent agencies by which the disease is established. The navicular once seriously affected there is absolutely no cure, except by the delicate operation of neurotomy (exercising the nerve), and this, even if successfully performed, which is by no means always the case, is but a negative cure at best, for the foot, being deprived of all sense of feeling, is liable to be battered and bruised by the unconscious violence of the horse, and finally to drop off. Such cases are by no means rare in veterinary practice.

"The effect of the unnatural lowering of the heels may be aptly illustrated by applying the same conditions to the human foot. Imagine, if you please, being compelled to knock the heels off one's boots, and having the toe elevated half an inch by a piece of leather tacked on to the sole under the ball of the foot! I think it will be readily conceded that this would be a very uncomfortable, annoying, and, if persevered in, painful mode of locomotion, but this is precisely what the Goodenough shoe does for the horse.

"Then, again, it is much narrower at the heel than at the toe, whereas to shield and protect the seat of the corn it should, if anything, be the reverse. It affords absolutely no protection whatever to the most sensi-

tive portion of the sole of the foot, which in itself is ample reason for its condemnation."

The anatomical description of the leg and hoof of the horse given by our correspondent is correct enough, and may be readily found in the easily accessible pages of Youatt, or whatever book upon veterinary practice may be convenient. If the evil attributed to the use of the Goodenough Horseshoe was a necessity of its use, there would be abundant reason for the complaint made. But while ignorant and unskilful men may use the Goodenough Shoe to the injury of horses, and defeat the design of its invention, no farrier worthy of the name would so use it; and no man with "horse sense" would permit it to be used, nor would he make the complaint made by our correspondent. An "unnatural lowering of the heels" is not a part of the Goodenough system, and never has been. The action of the frog of the foot upon the ground, whenever it can be had, is part of the Goodenough system; all horseshoeing that does not admit of that is defective, and leads to evils as grievous as any that afflict the horse. The horse's heels, when it is practicable, are lowered to obtain frog action, and the toe is also lowered, so that the toe of the shoe and the frog may make an even bearing upon the ground; the light heel of the shoe being commonly "sprung off" of the quarters of the hoof. A horse shod in this way will be kept sound. If a hoof is diseased, as most hoofs are that have been shod a year or two in the common way, there may have to be modification of this instruction. There is no Army regulation that compels any officer, farrier or enlisted cavalry man to throw aside his own judgment and common sense in using the Goodenough Shoe. Under former regulations heavy Burden Shoes were carted about with all the paraphernalia of the forge; they had to be heated to be cut off, punched-toed, turned up at the heels, or "dished out" on the foot surface. They were supplied to be used according to the discretion of the users. We take it, the same is the case with the Goodenough Shoe; with the additional advantage that it is light, beveled-punched and fitted. If the toe is too high it is a slight thing to hammer it down to a proper level, a simple proceeding that may be done cold, using a wagon tire or a convenient rock for an anvil.

The criticism made by this correspondent has been made by others, though in a more friendly spirit; it was in reference to that complaint that the G. H. S. Company published the circular, giving clear instructions for applying the shoe. It is true of the Goodenough Shoe that it does not "shield and protect the seat of corn;" it is also true that it "affords absolutely no protection whatever to the most sensitive portion of the sole of the foot." Instead of that being "ample reason for its condemnation," it is the very reason why it is advocated and used by so many practical horsemen.

The pretence of farriers and veterinarians that horseshoeing is in any way a "protection" against disease, or any accident such as a bruise; or that it in any way assists the action or power of the horse, is an ignorant or an impudent assumption. The only reason for shoeing a horse at all is to prevent the wearing of the hoof from attrition on gravelly soils or artificial roads. Horseshoes, instead of "protecting" from corns, are the only cause of corns. Every horseman knows this, and every authority worth quoting asserts it. Even farriers know that the widest webbed shoe must not bear upon the sole, and they consequently "dish" them to prevent such bearing. Our correspondent would imply that until now the Army had had no trouble with horseshoeing. The difficulties in regard to it in camp and on the march, in the whole history of armies, are so well known to the cavalry and quartermasters' services that we need not enlarge upon them.

The shoe known as the Goodenough (from the name of the inventor), is no new thing, nor is its use an experiment. Both the shoe and the system of shoeing taught by the inventor, have been before the public for ten years or more, and though the use of the shoe is not so general as its merit deserves, it is very largely in use among thoughtful people, and would be more used if the whole system of horseshoeing and the instruction in regard to it, had not been essentially modified by the discussions, experiments and betterments that have followed upon its introduction. The most thoughtful and disinterested book on horseshoeing, since the work of Strickland Freeman in the last century, is the volume published, London, 1873, by Lieut. Wm. Douglass, of the 10th Royal Hussars, who acknowledges his obligation to the instruction imparted by the Goodenough system, and laments the inability of the inventor to establish his business in England. This he attributes to his failure to do so to the prejudice of veterinarians, who, while denouncing Goodenough's shoe, appropriated his ideas; he had also to combat the ignorance and self interest of farriers, which seems to be the case in his dealings with the Army of the United States! Lieut. Douglass says:

The people who introduced it (the Goodenough Shoe) to the British public deserve the gratitude of all who take an interest in the humane treatment of man's noblest servant, the horse. Great as the existing ignorance of horse owners still is as regards the shoeing of these animals, this ignorance was ten-fold greater before the account of the Goodenough Shoe appeared in the Times, some four or five years since. The attention it called, and the conversion it caused among the trade of farriers, it would be difficult to describe. . . . Immense good accrued from the introduction of the Goodenough Shoe into England.

This and much more to the same effect from an officer of the British army, himself an accomplished horseman.

The invention of the Charlier Shoe, in France, was a direct suggestion of the Goodenough, and owed its invention to the municipal ordinance that forbade the use of calks upon the Asphalt pavements of Paris. Every argument used in favor of the Charlier system applies equally to the Goodenough. The objections to the Charlier system are that it is expensive and only practicable in the hands of every skilful workmen,

while the Goodenough is the cheapest shoe made, and the easiest in application.

As our correspondent has taken occasion to complain elsewhere, that we have not published his letter before this, we may as well say that the delay has been wholly due to consideration for him. As he insists, however, against our well meant advice, upon being allowed to make this open display of his ignorance, we shall not further object. In addition to his criticism, which we give, he occupies unnecessary space in the endeavor to prove that the Goodenough Shoe is not in common use in New York—on the Irishman's plan of establishing his innocence by producing numerous witnesses to prove that they did not see him commit the offence with which he was charged. The simple fact is that there are thirteen shops (one of them the largest and finest any where to be found) in the city of New York and Brooklyn, belonging to the Goodenough Company, and the shoe is used and thoroughly endorsed by Adams Express Co., American Express Co., United States Express Co., New York Transfer Co., American News Co., Madison Ave. Stage Co., Fifth Ave. Stage Co., 23d Street Stage Co., Second Ave. R. R. Co., Avenue C R. R. Co., and many others in the city of New York, and every city R. R. in Brooklyn. It is largely in use in California and Australia, and many shoes are exported by the Company to England and Scotland. Two successive Army boards, acting upon the evidence of disinterested horsemen and horse railway managers, recommended its use to the Army of the U. S., and we have every reason for believing that their action has met with the approval of the largest part of the cavalry and quartermaster's service.

AN HONORABLE RETRACTION.

CHATEAU D'EU, SEINE INFÉRIEURE, }
October 8, 1876. }

James Milliken, Esq., Philadelphia:

DEAR SIR: As I promised to you I have carefully studied the volume published by General Patterson on the Shenandoah campaign, and compared the account which it contains with the other documents upon which I prepared my description of the military events of July, 1861. I regret that I had no opportunity to see that book before I published my first volume, for it modifies in a serious way the judgment I passed upon General Patterson's conduct, upon the faith of the impressions I had received at the Headquarters of the Army in the last two months of General Scott's command.

I profess the greatest respect for that eminent patriot and soldier, for one who was justly considered as the father of the American Army. It is therefore most reluctantly that I am compelled to expose the military errors which he committed in July, 1861; these errors can be excused on account of his advanced age and his infirmities, but they had a too great influence on the course of events to be ignored by me.

Therefore, in answer to your communication, I have to state, after due consideration, that I was mistaken in charging General Patterson with having let Johnston slip away before him from Winchester without becoming aware of the fact.

Taking in account the situation of General Patterson, with soldiers whose service was to expire in a few days, the instructions which he received from Washington and the ignorance in which he was left of the postponement of the attack of Manassas from the 18th to the 21st, I think he did all that he could do. The most serious charge which could be brought against him was, in my opinion, not that Johnston had been able to leave Winchester, but that he had left without General Patterson suspecting it, and advising General Scott of that important fact. That charge falls to the ground before the telegram sent by the former to the latter on July 20, quoted page 78, although it should not be turned against General Scott, as it is likely that he received that information too late to communicate it to McDowell at Centreville before the morning of the 21st. If my work reaches another edition it will be corrected accordingly. At all events you can put this letter at General Patterson's disposition. Believe me, Sir, yours truly,

L. P. D'ORLEANS, Comte de Paris.

THE TROOPS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

GEN. RUGER'S REPLY TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE DEMOCRATIC HOUSE.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 8, 1876.

To Hon. F. A. Conner and others:

GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE: I have the honor to say in reply to your inquiries based upon the resolution, of which you handed me a copy on yesterday, that the United States troops in the State-house were placed there by my order, for the purpose of executing such orders as might be given, and in this connection I would say, with reference to the inquiries numbered six and seven, that if your body should appear at the State-house for the purpose of entering the Hall of the House of Representatives, and should be refused admission by those having charge of the doors, and such persons should apply to the officers in command of the troops at the State-house for assistance necessary to prevent your entering, the present orders to the officers would require them to render such assistance.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
THOMAS H. RUGER,
Colonel and Brevet Brigadier General.

PIONEERS' tools will shortly be issued to English cavalry regiments for the purpose of practising the men in cavalry pioneering. This will include demolition of bridges, railways, destruction of telegraph wires, breaking up of rails and sleepers, blowing up of small earthworks, and mining buildings. The pioneers will receive extra pay.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., November 29, 1876.

SIR: The following report of the Navy Department and naval service for the present year is respectfully submitted.

NAVAL FORCE.

There are now belonging to the Navy of the United States, 146 vessels of 150,167 tons measurement. Exclusive of howitzers and Gatlings they carry 1,142 guns. Of these, 123, carrying 913 guns, with a measurement of 120,894 tons, have steam power, and 23, carrying, nominally, 229 guns, with a measurement of 29,263 tons, are sailing vessels.

The steam vessels are rated as follows:

	Guns.	Tons.
5 first-rates.....	188	15,163
39 second-rates.....	478	53,800
30 third-rates.....	164	19,506
6 fourth-rates.....	4	3,143
27 tugs.....	6	4,729
2 torpedo-boats.....	1	749
24 iron-clads.....	72	23,804
123	913	120,894

The sailing vessels are rated as follows:

	Guns.	Tons.
4 second-rates.....	36	10,700
15 third-rates.....	188	15,919
4 fourth-rates.....	5	2,644
23	229	29,263

The iron clad vessels are rated as follows:

	Guns.	Tons.
6 second-rates.....	36	12,361
4 third-rates.....	16	4,375
14 fourth-rates.....	32	7,308
24	72	23,804

All the tugs are regarded as fourth-rates.

Of the whole number of vessels, 75 are at present in actual use, as follows: 37 are in commission attached to fleets, in which number are embraced 11 iron-clad vessels on the North Atlantic station; 2 are in use as training ships; 6 on special service and as despatch and freight ships; 2 are torpedo boats; 5 are receiving ships; 2 are store ships; 2 more are used by States, under act of Congress, as school ships; and 19 are in use as quarters, gunnery ships, tenders, etc., at the Navy-yards and shore stations. Of the remainder, 4 are preparing and almost ready for sea; 8 are under repairs; and 59 are laid up at the various Navy-yards.

The actual condition of the material of the naval service at this time, and what has been done with it during your administration, may perhaps be better understood by comparing it with itself as it existed in 1869. This may be done fully by referring to the particular statement of the character, service, repairs, and condition of each ship, which will be found appended to this report, and a general idea may be obtained from the following summary, which contains some of the results of the fuller statement referred to.

The number of vessels belonging to the Navy in 1869, including screw and side-wheel steamers, tugs, iron-armored vessels, and sailing ships, was as follows:

Iron-clads.....	52
Screw steamers.....	67
Side wheel steamers, large and small.....	32
Tugs and small side wheel steamers, not fitted for fighting.....	23
Sailing vessels, store, surveying, and receiving ships.....	29

Whole number.....

203

Of these there were unavailable for fighting purposes the following, viz.:

Vessels on the stocks built of live oak.....	1
Vessels on the stocks built of white oak.....	5
Tugs used for yard purposes.....	32
Sailing vessels used as practice, store, and receiving vessels, but of no use for fighting purposes.....	29
Iron-clads on the stocks built of white oak, and unfit for use by reason of decay.....	4
Iron-clads not of sufficient displacement, and entirely unfit for war purposes.....	21

In all.....

92

To which should be added the *Niagara*, *Puritan*, and *Susquehanna*, which were without machinery, and in such condition that as much time and money would be required to put them in sea-going order as to build new vessels. They were consequently unavailable.....

3

Total.....

95

Which deducted from the 203 vessels, as above, leaves as the available force of the Navy at that time.....

108

Of the 108 available vessels, as above, 47 were being completed or repaired, or were laid up at the several Navy-yards; and of these, 21 screw steamers and 4 iron-clads were built of white oak, and had all begun to decay. Their usefulness was therefore of short duration, as their history, found in the appendix to this report, shows. The other iron-clads, which possessed the proper fighting qualities, and are included in the 108 vessels, were also more or less rotten, and all required extensive repairs. Of the 203 vessels of 1869, there have been sold 46; broken up 18; lost at sea, 5—69 vessels; thus reducing the number to 134 vessels. To which add the addition made to the Navy since 1869, of new vessels, 10; purchased vessels, 2; making the whole number on the register at the present time 146 vessels. For a full and particular understanding of the character and condition of these vessels, reference may be had to the appendix already mentioned. This will show that of our present force of 146 vessels, of every class, 40 are built of iron, viz., 5 double-turreted iron-clads, 15 single-turreted monitors, 2 torpedo boats, and 18 steamers of various classes. Of the remainder, 65 are of live oak, viz., 1 iron-clad, 5 steamers of the first rate, 20 steamers of the second rate, 19 steamers of the third-rate, and 20 sailing vessels. The remaining 41 are white oak ships, of almost every class. Of the whole number, 75 are, as has been before stated, in actual service, and 4 are preparing for sea; 16 may be considered as entirely used up and unfit for future service; and the balance are at the various Navy-yards, some requiring slight and others extensive repairs; but most of them could be made ready for any special service in a short time. Seventeen of our steamers have been furnished with compound engines and boilers of the best class, and with the latest improvements, and nearly all other steamers have, du-

ring the last eight years, been supplied with new boilers, and their machinery extensively repaired.

There is also on hand, stored at the various Navy-yards, live oak timber sufficient for 35 new ships of war, besides a large quantity of other valuable timber and naval material of every kind.

This statement shows that after eight years of active service of every kind, during which period it has suffered the loss of four ships by actual disaster, and seen many others of its valuable cruisers come to final decay and utter worthlessness, by reason of hasty construction from perishable material, during time of war, our Navy is now, in the character and condition of its ships and material, in a condition far superior to that in which it was in 1869, and indeed far more powerful for our warlike purposes than it has ever before been in time of peace. It does not compare, either in number or character of vessels, with the expensive establishments of those European nations whose mutual relations keep them always in armed array, whose contiguous coasts and deep harbors at home, and scattered colonies all over the world, seem to require that they should constantly rival each other, at whatever expense, in the size and power of their naval vessels and armaments; but, for the defensive purposes of a peaceful people, without colonies, with a dangerous coast, and shallow harbors, separated by a vast ocean from warlike naval powers, our Navy is not without strength, and when its iron-clad fleet shall be completely repaired, a work requiring now but little time and expense, and its force supplemented by the comparatively cheap addition herein recommended, it will, I think, be found sufficient to resist any force which could be brought across the ocean to attack us; and powerful also for offensive operations upon the seas and among the islands which lie contiguous to our own shores. In view of the fact that the appropriations for the two principal working bureaus of the Department average but little over five millions annually, and considering the cost of merely maintaining a Navy, consisting largely of ships hurriedly built of perishable material, which after requiring for a few years constant repair finally drop out of the service from utter worthlessness, I think that this state of things reflects great credit upon those officers through whose practical knowledge and ability the Department has been able to utilize all that there was valuable in the Navy, and to bring it to its present state of efficiency.

The question of what should compose a sound and economical, but efficient, naval force has presented during the past few years so many different aspects that we may perhaps congratulate ourselves that we have not followed step by step in the practical but expensive development of the problem in which other maritime nations have been engaged. The question constantly recurs, however, brought up by conflicting interests and opinions, shall we enter upon the expensive and unsatisfactory construction of armor-plated gun-bearing vessels, involving millions of dollars in the cost of each one? or shall we be content with providing ourselves, at a minimum cost, with the means of destroying such vessels should they appear in hostile attitude on our coasts or in our bays or harbors? Fast, well-built wooden cruisers, proper for the police of the seas, serving as schools of instruction in time of peace and capable of destroying an enemy's commerce in time of war, are under all conditions serviceable. The monitor class of vessels has, for us, special and valuable ones in conjunction with other forces. The torpedo schools give our officers the instruction necessary to utilize whatever there is in this most efficient arm of attack and defence; and I would add to the force a new element, the marine ram, which promises, when constructed upon scientific principles, in forms of special strength for its particular and appropriate service, to be a weapon of most destructive warfare. The construction of this class of vessels has been carefully considered for several years past by a naval officer of high rank, assisted by able experts, and detailed plans are put at the service of the Department without cost or charge of any kind. The construction of such a vessel of the best material and of special strength would involve an expense of about \$350,000, and if successful, as it promises to be, it would add a new element tending to make our force complete in itself, at once economical and efficient.

With such a force and with no colonies to defend, I think we may well dispense, for the present at least, with the heavy-armed and unwieldy iron-clads of European nations, and, also, with the monster cannon necessary to penetrate them. Any vessel which can safely cross the seas to enter our harbors or to lie upon our shores will be found vulnerable to cannon of moderate weight and calibre, while the heaviest armor will not protect a ship from the attacks of torpedoes managed by brave and well-instructed officers. Thus, our monitor system, supported by the marine ram, commanded by enterprising officers, and reinforced by the deadly torpedo iron-clads, which have been for some time regularly progressing out of the current annual appropriations, may be completed. These have been delayed in the hands of the contractors during the current year by the fact that the appropriations made for these bureaus were not sufficient for their continuance. The reasons why this should be done at once are many, and will be readily understood. The vessels are, as I have said, in the hands of the contractors, actually in a state of partial repair. These repairs, to be economically and properly done, should progress regularly, as a continuous work, with the different parts advancing simultaneously, of homogeneous material, on a concurrent plan, under the same general direction, and, as far as possible, with the same workmen. To stop it from time to time must involve more or less of change in all these conditions, to the man fee; increase of the cost and injury to the quality of the work. Delay involves, also, increased cost of superintendence, care-taking, and preservation, and risk of injury or loss to the public property. The work can be done now

cheaper than at any other time, and if done now will give employment, at a season of great distress, for establishments and workmen to whom it is not only kindness but practical wisdom on the part of the Government to afford all proper encouragement and assistance. Besides, the ships are useless to the Government while in progress of repair, but when concluded, they will constitute a large element of the strength of our Navy, and, adding immensely to its fighting power, will raise it to a position more in harmony with our national responsibility and requirements. There is no additional money asked for this purpose, but only that a portion of the regular appropriations be made available for it now. The amount asked is the same which was estimated for this work last year, but which was not then appropriated; and by taking it from the amount estimated for the next year, without enlarging that estimate, the Department will be able to go on with this necessary work, to the great advantage of the Government, without increasing the appropriations, and the work being done, the bureau can be carried on with the amounts estimated for them reduced by the amount which this work costs.

CRUISING STATIONS.

These are the same as were reported last year, including with in the limits assigned to them every important field of naval operations. The strength of the force on each station is as follows:

European Station.—Rear-Admiral John L. Worden commands the naval force on the European station, which is now much reduced. The *Franklin*, *Congress*, *Junata*, and *Alaska* have returned home during the present year, and the squadron has been re-enforced only by the *Marion* and the *Vandalia*.

In pursuance of orders of the Department the *Congress* and *Junata* left Villefranche Nov. 29, 1876, for Port Royal, to join the force on the North Atlantic station.

The *Alaska* left Lisbon Jan. 1, for the coast of Africa, under special instructions from the Department, the revolt of the native tribes against the republic of Liberia being then in progress and seriously threatening the safety of the colonies. Captain A. A. Semmes, commanding the *Alaska*, was ordered to confer with the minister of the United States at Monrovia and the President of Liberia, to protect American citizens and interests; to manifest the friendly disposition of the people of the United States and Government toward the citizens of the government of Liberia; to cruise along the coast, show the flag to the natives, and act in conjunction with the Liberian authorities in suppressing the revolt among the natives. She arrived at Monrovia, Feb. 3. The President of Liberia, with his suite, was received on board.

The *Franklin*, after proceeding under special orders to Vilgo, Spain, left that port for home on the 28th of September. Delayed by adverse winds and calms, her voyage was long, and she only reached New York on the 23d of the present month.

The present European affairs makes it proper that this squadron should be strengthened as promptly as possible, and the Department contemplates re-enforcing it with the *Trenton* as soon as she can be fitted out, and in the mean time with such other ships as can be spared from their present duty.

Asiatic Station.—The force on this station is the same as stated in the last annual report of the Department, with a single change. It was reduced in May by the *Suez*, ordered to San Francisco, and again increased by the arrival in August of the *Alert*, from New York, via the Suez Canal. Rear-Admiral Wm. Reynolds remains in command.

The following named vessels now compose his force: The *Tennessee* (flag-ship), *Kearsarge*, *Ashuelot*, *Alert*, *Monocacy*, and *Palos*—all with steam power, and carrying altogether forty-eight guns.

Owing to the great distance of this station from our Atlantic ports, it has been found to be to the interest of the Government to repair some of the vessels out there rather than to send them home for that purpose. This has been done during the past year, and some which have been on the station for two or three times the usual time have been provided with new boilers and otherwise repaired, so as to make them useful cruisers for some time to come.

North Pacific Station.—The *Pensacola* (flag-ship), and the *Lackawanna*, are the only vessels now in commission on this station, which is under the command of Rear-Admiral Alex. Murray, who relieved Rear-Admiral John J. Almy, July 1.

The *Tuscarora* and *Portsmouth*, which have been attached to this station during the year, were put out of commission at Mare Island—the former in September and the latter in August.

South Pacific Station.—The vessels on this station at the date of the last annual report of the Department were the *Richmond* (flag-ship), *Omaha*, and stationary store-ship *Onward* at Callao, and Rear-Admiral Reed Werden was then in command.

Rear-Admiral Werden was relieved July 13 by Commodore C. H. B. Caldwell, who went out on the mail steamer from New York June 23.

On the 12th August Commodore Caldwell sailed from Callao, in the *Richmond*, for Montevideo, touched at Valparaiso, and was heard from at Sandy Point, Straits of Magellan, early in October. He is no doubt on the coast of Brazil, and, in pursuance of the Department's orders, in command of the naval force on the South Atlantic station.

On the departure of Commodore Caldwell, Captain Edward Simpson, commanding the *Omaha*, was left the senior officer present on this station, but Rear-Admiral Murray arrived recently at Panama and is now in command in those waters.

The South Atlantic Station.—The force on this station, which consisted of the *Brooklyn* (flag-ship), *Monongahela*, and *Wasp*, and was under command of Rear-Admiral William E. Le Roy, was reduced last December by the withdrawal of the *Brooklyn* and *Monongahela* for services on our own coast and the departure of Rear-Admiral Le Roy in his flag-ship for Key West.

The station has since been re-enforced by the arrival of the *Richmond* from the South Pacific station, and the command devolves, under the orders of the Department, upon Commodore C. H. B. Caldwell. The *Frile* is the only other vessel on the station, the *Wasp* having been sold.

The North Atlantic Station.—The force on this station, which consisted one year ago of nine cruisers and six other vessels, and was under the command of Rear-Admiral J. R. M. Mullany, was soon afterward largely increased by attaching to it vessels from the European and South Atlantic stations, and putting in commission some of the new sloops and ten of the monitors. By these accessions it consisted in February, when Rear-Admiral Mullany was relieved by Rear-Admiral William E. Le Roy, of twenty-four vessels, not including store ships and tugs, viz.: Hartford (flag-ship), *Brooklyn*, *Congress*, *Plymouth*, *Ossipee*, *Vandalia*, *Marion*, *Monongahela*, *Swatara*, *Shawmut*, *Alert*, *Viron*, *Dixie*, *Wyandotte*, *Passaic*, *Catakill*, *Nantucket*, *Lehigh*, *Montauk*, *Canonicus*, *Ajax*, *Saugus*, *Mahopac*, and *Manhattan*. In addition there were in commission two torpedo-boats, the *Alarm* and the *Intrepid*, also four other steamers, the *Powhatan*, *Junata*, *Tallapoosa*, and *Dispatch*, all within the limits of the station, which, although not strictly part of Rear-Admiral Le Roy's command, were available for immediate service; thus making at hand thirty-one vessels, twelve of which were monitors and two powerful torpedo-boats. This force was maintained as long as there seemed to be any possibility of its use. Some of the cruising vessels were then sent to other stations, others were put out of commission, and nearly all the monitors, although kept in commission, were reduced in their complements, with only a sufficient number of officers and men retained on board to keep the vessels in good condition.

The force on this station by recent additions now consist of the *Hartford*, *Brooklyn*, *Congress*, *Plymouth*, *Ossipee*, *Huntsville*, *Ranger*, all the monitors above named except the *Nantucket*, and the store ship *New Hampshire*, hospital ship *Pawnee*, and tug *Sea Weed* stationed at Port Royal, S. C.

The *Powhatan*, *Dispatch*, *Tallapoosa*, *Monongahela*, *Rio Bravo*, *Alarm*, and *Intrepid* are also in commission and ready for service, but not strictly a part of the squadron.

The Department has lately adopted the plan of retaining all ships, on going into commission, upon this coast and attached to the North Atlantic squadron for a few months previous to ordering them abroad. It is believed that the effect has been beneficial, as any defects in the ships or their machinery can then be remedied at home, and the discipline of the personnel can be perfected in our own waters. With this preliminary drill and inspection the ships reach foreign stations in an efficient and creditable condition.

The Department has also commissioned as receiving ships at the different naval stations the frigates *Wabash* and *Colorado* at Boston and New York, and proposes to place the *Franklin* at Norfolk, instead of the hulks formerly used for this purpose,

These ships, with those used for training and school ships, form a reserve, maintained without additional expense, and ready to be used in any emergency.

The reduction of the force of our fleet, by act of Congress, from 8,500 to 7,500 men has placed our Navy, in the personnel of the enlisted men, below that of nearly every navy of Europe. The effect of this reduction has been to leave the service many valuable seamen, who, for want of continuous employment in the Navy and in the absence of any commerce of our own, have been forced to go abroad for employment. Their services are thus lost to the country, and the time and care given to their education as men-of-war's men has been to some extent in vain. As a remedy for this misfortune, and for the purpose of maintaining a trained class of men in the Navy, skilled in their duties and devoted to their flag, I have the honor to repeat my recommendations of last year, that Congress give the necessary authority to enlist annually 750 boys for the Navy, under existing laws, but in addition to the number of men now allowed. The cost of these boys, so far as the pay of the Navy is concerned, would not amount to more than the cost of 350 men; and it is expected that this number enlisted annually will, in the course of a few years, not only fill the vacancies made by discharge, death, and desertion, but finally man our fleet with educated American seamen.

The system of training boys has been in successful operation for little more than one year, and there are at present 479 in the Service, one-half of them under instruction on board the training ships *Minnesota* and *Monomahela*, and the others already afloat in various sea-going vessels. The Department has stationed the *Minnesota* at New York, the *Constitutes* at Philadelphia, and the *Monomahela* at Boston, as permanent school ships for these lands, and the experience of the past year fully demonstrates the success of this effort to improve our seamen. I feel myself, therefore, most fully justified in earnestly renewing my recommendation of this addition to the personnel of the Navy.

I would also call your attention to other recommendations contained in the report of the Chief of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting, intended to benefit the seamen of the Navy. Among them is the urgent and often-repeated recommendation that the enlisted men of the Navy may be allowed an outfit of clothing. This allowance has, for several years, been considered both by the Department and by the Navy at large as eminently proper and just, and has, on several occasions, been urged in Congress, but as yet it has failed to receive that attention which I think it deserves. I trust, however, that sooner or later a law will be passed granting an outfit of clothing to the enlisted men, under such restrictions and regulations as the Department may establish.

The report of the Chief of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting contains another request which I deem worthy of consideration. He urges the establishment of a banking system for the Navy, similar to that now in force in the Army, where it has produced the most satisfactory results. The Army law authorizes the payment of interest at 4 per cent. upon all sums of \$50 and upward deposited by any enlisted man with the paymasters, subject to certain conditions and restrictions. If this system should be adopted for the Navy, a careful estimate of the sum that would be required for the payment of the interest places it at but \$24,000 per annum. The men of the Navy are rarely paid off before the expiration of their three years' term of service, and the money, which is actually their own, is thus left in the United States Treasury, without any benefit accruing to the rightful owners. It is no more than proper and just that a moderate interest should be granted by the Government for its use. I am convinced that the foregoing suggestions, if put into effect as laws, will prove of great and lasting benefit to our Navy, without adding materially to the cost of its maintenance, and I therefore respectfully refer them to the favorable consideration of Congress.

NAVAL EDUCATION.

The Academy.—The worth of an educational institution must be judged by the adaptability of the course of studies pursued to the profession for which its students are destined, and by the thoroughness with which these are taught.

The Naval Academy, under its able Superintendent, has been conducted with these objects in view, and the basis of an education afforded by this institution is such as is demanded for Navy officers of the present day.

In the past, in the days when canvas was the motive power, the battery smooth-bore guns, and gunnery in a crude state, a general knowledge of seamanship, navigation, and gunnery was deemed sufficient for the ordinary education of a Navy officer. A few years has changed this, and the Naval Academy has kept pace with these changes as they have occurred.

Recent improvements in naval warfare are largely indebted to the sciences. A built-up gun, a torpedo, an iron gun-carriage, the armor on a ship's side, the newly improved engines, the powerful gunpowders, dynamite, and other explosives, the use of the electric telegraph in longitudes, the understanding of the machines now in use for testing the velocity and strength of powder, and many other changes which the last few years have brought forth, are based upon and permeated by some principle of physics, chemistry, electricity, mechanics, and mathematics; so that at the present day an officer, to be familiar with the weapons he is called to wield, must be acquainted with the sciences upon whose principles these weapons are constructed. These are taught at the Naval Academy. Ships will not again be fought under sail, and the tactics of Paul Hoste, so valuable in their day, must give way to those of recent date.

As the motive power, in action, is hardly of less importance than the battery itself, it behooves a commanding officer to have an intelligent idea of the construction, working, and proper use of the engines and boilers of the vessel he commands; hence the instruction in both theoretical and practical steam engineering. It must not be understood, however, that steam and its applications are taught to the exclusion of seamanship. On the contrary, this branch, with the addition of ship building, is taught with every minute detail, requiring but the constant practice afloat, in after life, to give the quick perception, the prompt decision, and instant action so requisite and so remarkably pertaining to the thorough seaman under all circumstances. Now, as heretofore, the first requisites of a Navy officer must be seamanship, navigation, and gunnery, however closely these may be crowded by other requirements indispensably necessary.

As I have before said, the system of the Naval Academy has kept pace with the changes which have taken place, and the branches there taught are those adapted to the naval profession of to-day. With such a basis of education, the officers who have had the advantages of this institution should excel in every branch of their profession.

The Naval Signal Service.—The system of signals in the Navy has undergone great improvement within the past few years, more attention having been given to this most important subject than heretofore. A new and complete signal book has been issued, bearing the impress of the talent and intelligence of its compilers and of the labor and care bestowed upon it.

Experiments have been made with various descriptions of lights for signalling on shipboard; with many patterns of side lights and running lights, to prevent collisions at sea; as also with systems of fog signals, and flash and sound telegraphy. A careful supervision has been exercised over the signal departments of vessels in commission.

The Torpedo Station.—The branches taught at the Naval Academy are immediately brought into practice at the torpedo station, which has been furnished, as far as practicable, with every appliance for making and experimenting with this formidable weapon of modern warfare. A class of such officers as can be spared from the other duties of the Service are instructed at the torpedo station during the summer months, in which the work of this institution is carried on, prevents the general public, perhaps, from appreciating its value, and few people know how diligently and constantly the tasks devolving on astronomers are prosecuted.

Provided by wise liberality with the best instruments obtainable, the Naval Observatory has risen to a high rank, both at home and abroad, for efficiency and for the character of the work accomplished, and has amply fulfilled the expectations of its

founders. As is eminently pertinent, the work of general scientific research has not been prosecuted, but the more appropriate routine for a government observatory, of making such daily and nightly observations of sun, stars, and planets as may afford information useful to the navigator and surveyor, has been constantly carried on.

In addition to the regular routine work of the Observatory, expeditions for the observation of the solar eclipses of December 22, 1870, and for the transit of Venus on December 8, 1874, were organized and sent out, in both cases with most gratifying success. The highest commendations of the eclipse observations were received from astronomers at home and abroad, and the work of reducing the transit of Venus observations has progressed sufficiently to prove that the labor and expense attendant on the expedition was well bestowed. The work at the desolate stations, entrusted to Navy officers, was well and satisfactorily performed, affording another proof, if such were needed, that the groundwork of education received at the Naval Academy produces most satisfactory results. The several parties, composed of civilians, military and Navy officers, co-operated with the most gratifying harmony. All the parties and instruments dispatched to different parts of the world have been safely returned, and it is satisfactory that our countrymen, by care and skill, were successful in the safe return of their instruments, as from several places, in this the astronomers of other nations failed.

Besides the yearly volume of observations and results, there has been published by the Observatory many other contributions to astronomical science, among the most important of which are:

A report on the position of fundamental stars, by Professor Newcomb.

A report on the position of 151 stars in *Præsepe*, by Professor Hall.

A report of the solar eclipse of 1870.

A report of the right ascensions of equatorial fundamental stars, by Professor Newcomb.

A catalogue of 10,523 stars, by Professor Yarnall, depending on upwards of 100,000 observations.

An investigation of the Uranian and Neptunian systems with the 26-inch equatorial, by Professor Newcomb.

The Observatory has also co-operated in the determinations of longitude, by the telegraphic method, of Havana, Saint Louis, Detroit, Carlin, (Nev.) Austin, (Nev.) Ogden, Bethlehem, (Pa.) and Key West.

Electric clocks, controlled by the clock at the Observatory, have been established at the Navy, Treasury, and State Departments, and at the Signal-Office, and it would appear desirable that this system should be extended to all the Departments and to the Chambers of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The time is furnished daily to the Western Union Telegraph Company, and is by them distributed over the country for the benefit of railroads, commerce, and the public generally. An extension of the system seems desirable.

The chronometers belonging to the Navy are as heretofore kept at the Observatory, and their errors carefully ascertained before sending them on board of vessels.

Upon the opening of the South Kensington Exhibition of Scientific Instruments, at London, in June last, Prof. E. S. Holden, U. S. N., was temporarily detached from duty at the Observatory and directed to examine and report on the exhibition. This was thoroughly and promptly accomplished, and a most interesting and valuable report was submitted by him to the Department.

THE NAUTICAL ALMANAC.

The preparation and issue of the American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac, under the able and scientific superintendence of Prof. J. H. Coffin, U. S. N., has reflected credit on the country and on the Navy, and supplies that which would otherwise necessarily be drawn from abroad.

It is issued to the vessels of the Navy, to our commerce, to the various exploring and surveying expeditions of the Army, to the United States Coast Survey, the Land Office, the various observatories and astronomers, to colleges and other institutions, especially to those in which astronomical observations or investigations are conducted. From year to year its tedious and monotonous work of calculation goes steadily on, with such additions as new discoveries require.

SURVEYS FOR INTEROCEANIC CANAL.

During the last eight years the Navy have been also employed in various explorations and surveys in Central America, and on the Isthmus of Panama, with a view to ascertain the best localities for a ship canal to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. We have made—

1st. A sufficient and conclusive examination and survey of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

2d. An instrumental survey locating a canal route from the vicinity of Greytown via Lake Nicaragua, the Rio del Medio, and Rio Grande to Brito, on the Pacific coast. In this vicinity a careful examination was made of other routes besides the one chosen in order to select the best. These surveys extended over two seasons, and estimates for the entire cost of labor and materials have been submitted.

3d. A survey for a canal from the harbor of Aspinwall to Panama along the line of the railway, with approximate estimates of cost.

4th. Two attempts, one from either coast, for locating a canal route between the Chiriqui River and the Gulf of San Blas, which clearly indicated the impracticability of this route.

5th. Attempts were made in the vicinity of Caledonia Bay to find a route for a canal, but even with a tunnel through the mountains this route was at once seen to be impracticable.

6th. Examinations were made of a route by way of the Tuira River and the valley of the Atrato, which dispose effectively of the pretensions of Senor Gorgozza and others. It was found that the elevation of the Pacific water shed, when reached, would make a canal here simply impossible.

7th. An instrumental survey was made (involving several tentative lines), and a route located by way of the Uraba River, the mouth of the river Atrato, and by way of the Nippi River to the Pacific. Plans and estimates have been submitted for this route, which involves the construction of a tunnel as well as conduits for water supply. This work extended over three seasons.

The Department has to regret that no appropriations were made for the publications of this important survey, nor that of the Isthmus of Panama, equally important in the settlement of the question of the best location for an interoceanic canal.

Although this work does not, strictly speaking, come within the scope of the ordinary duties of naval officers, it has been performed with great zeal, skill, and self-devotion, several of the officers employed having seriously injured their health by protracted exposure in a sickly climate.

DETERMINATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL POSITIONS IN THE WEST INDIES AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

Under the United States Hydrographic Office and the Bureau of Navigation, without any extra appropriation, a commencement has been most successfully made of the task of accurately determining points to which future surveys may be referred. The increased accuracy of both instruments and methods makes the errors existing in geographical positions, and especially in their longitudes, no longer tolerable, and in 1874, 1875, and 1876 the work of exacting exactness in the latitudes and longitudes of eleven stations in the West Indies and Central America was carried out with great success. This work has met with the cordial appreciation of men of science both of our own country and abroad. As the methods and instruments used are those especially employed in this country, it is eminently fit that the work so successfully begun and of such acknowledged importance should be continued along the coast of South America. The instruments, outfit, and staff officers are ready, and the advantages of experience in the field, and the work can be carried on by a naval vessel without any extra appropriation.

DEEP-SEA EXPLORATION.

Much has also been accomplished in the direction of deep-sea exploration. In two successive cruises of the United States steamer *Tuscarora*, with a view of laying telegraphic cables in the Pacific, lines of sounding were made first between California, the Sandwich Islands, and Japan, under the command of Commander G. E. Belknap, and between the Sandwich Islands and Australia, under the command of Commander J. N. Miller. During the first cruise no less than 483 soundings were made, and on the second, 107 were taken, serial temperatures being observed and bottom specimens obtained.

This work was admirably done and reflects great credit on the officers employed in it. Deep-sea soundings between Saint Thomas, West Indies, and Cape Henry, by way of Bermuda, have also been made by the United States steamer *Gettysburg*.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The Arctic expedition in the *Polaris* was also conducted under the direction of the Navy Department; its history is too generally known to require further mention.

HYDROGRAPHY.

The United States Hydrographic Office, established by act of Congress in 1856, was but little more than a depot of purchased charts and books for the use of the Navy until 1870, from which time its steady advancement may be dated. With but a small force of draughtsmen and engravers, the greater portion of the work has devolved on officers of the Navy. It has been the endeavor of the Navy Department to foster and increase this office, so important to our commercial and naval marine, and to place it as quickly as possible on a footing with similar offices abroad. In the short interval since the establishment of this office, the work, as directed by law, of preparing sailing directions and charts for the use of navigators, has been diligently carried on, the office having constructed, compiled, and issued since 1870 twenty-five distinct volumes of sailing directions and 437 charts. Many of its publications are now viewed as standard works, and its charts have acquired reputation for their correctness and for the information which they contain. The yearly sales of charts and books to its agents in the ports of the United States have averaged 1,000 books for the purposes of navigation and 5,000 charts, besides those issued to naval vessels and exchanges with foreign governments for their latest publications. A system of exchanges of hydrographic information with the hydrographic offices of all maritime nations has been so perfected that, at the earliest possible moment after the appearance in any part of the world, and in any language, of information which may be useful in aiding the navigator to safely conduct the ship under his charge to a destination, it is published and circulated wherever it may be of service. In this work the hydrographic offices of Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Holland, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Russia, Brazil, and Chili unite with our own. Since 1870, 449 hydrographic notices of changes or new discoveries in the earth's surface have been issued, as also 632 notices to mariners of alterations in artificial aids to navigation, such as light houses and buoys, together with yearly corrected lists of foreign lights. This work is done by Navy officers and requires the translation and careful examination of a mass of material brought by every mail.

It has been the object and endeavor of the Department to employ naval vessels as far as their duties would permit in surveys and in such explorations as might be beneficial to navigation and to science. To a certain extent it has been enabled to accomplish this without any additional appropriation. Extensive surveys, however, cannot be conducted without a small special appropriation.

The surveys performed under the auspices of the Hydrographic Office, though fewer in number than would have been made with the requested appropriations, have been important. The survey of the coast of Lower California by the United States steamer *Narragansett*, afforded the first accurate delineation of these coasts, rapidly growing in commercial importance; the preliminary charts published two years since by this office were at once copied and republished by both German and English authorities. With the exception of the small appropriation for commencing this survey, none other has been granted, excepting for the ordinary work of the office. By the cruise of the United States steamer *Fortmouth*, the list of doubtful dangers in the Pacific Ocean, some of which had been reduced and valuable surveys were made of Washington, Christmas, Palmyra, and Fanning Islands. In the West Indies several rocks and shoals marked on the charts as doubtful were, by the assiduous searches made by the United States ships *Kansas*, *Shawmut*, *Nipile*, *Vandalia*, etc., proved to have no existence, and others heretofore considered as doubtful were located and distinctly established.

The coast of Mexico from the Rio Grande to Laguna de Terminos has been surveyed by the United States ships *Hyacinth* and *Sturges*. In this survey, in addition to clearing laying down the coast line and adjacent shoals, the approaches to the coast were carefully sounded out as far off shore as the 100-fathom line.

A very good, though not extensive, survey of the approaches to Montevideo has been made by the officers of the United States ship *Wasp*, and by the officers of the United States ship *Pensacola*, surveys of harbors in the Island of Hawaii. Occasional surveys have been made in the Pacific Ocean by the officers of the United States ships *Ossipee*, *Jamestown*, *Richmond*, and *Omaha*; in the East Indies by those of the United States ships *Ashuelot* and *Troquois*; in the West Indies by the United States ship *Canandaigua*, and within the Rio de la Plata by the United States ship *Frisco*.

The International Exhibition of 1875, at Santiago, Chili, awarded a first-class medal and diploma to the Hydrographic Office for the excellence of its publications, as also one to the hydrographer under whose superintendence these publications were issued.

HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE.

Having called your attention to the creditable and satisfactory progress of the United States Hydrographic Office, to the ability and diligence of those connected with it, and to the amount of valuable practical work accomplished within the term of my administration of the Navy Department, I must express the regret of the Department that even the very limited estimates for this work have been cut down; that no appropriation has been given for the continuance of the survey in the Pacific Ocean; and that this important office, with its valuable collection of charts, books, and plates, is still under the necessity of occupying a rented building, unsafe and inadequate to its requirements. Owing to the reduction of the appropriation for printing, this office is unable to issue some of its works necessary for commerce, and many of the charts of the coasts and gulf of Lower California, from the surveys made by the United States ship *Narragansett*, are as yet not engraved for want of the required appropriation. To these matters, so important to our maritime interests, I would especially ask the attention of Congress.

During the past fiscal year the work under the Hydrographic Office for the determination of longitudes through the West India Islands by the electric telegraph, by Lieut.-Comdr F. M. Green, United States Navy, in the United States ship *Gettysburg*, has been completed; the stations of Key West, Havana, Santiago de Cuba, Kingston, (Jamaica,) Aspinwall, Panama, San Juan, (Puerto Rico,) Saint Thomas, Santa Cruz, Saint Pierre, (Martinique,) Bridgetown, (Barbados,) and Port Spain (Trinidad) were occupied, the measurements of longitudes being made from Key West, the position of which had been previously carefully determined by the United States Coast Survey. The most accurate methods known were used in determining these positions, the latitudes being fixed by the zenith telescope and the longitudes by the exchange of time signals through the submarine telegraph cable.

The success of this work has fully justified the expectations formed of it. For the first time the latitudes and longitudes of these islands, so much visited by vessels of all nations, and especially by those of the United States, have been fixed so decidedly as not to admit of question. The most gratifying cordiality and assistance were extended to the officers engaged in this work, both by foreign authorities and by the officials of the telegraph companies. The observations are now being computed as rapidly as possible, and will be published as soon as completed. As the service will permit, vessels of the North Atlantic squadron will be employed to determine the longitudes of the chronometrically the points intermediate between the several established stations.

The United States ship *Gettysburg* is at present employed in obtaining the required information for Parts II. and III. of the Description of the Coasts and Islands of the Mediterranean, and in making and correcting surveys where necessary. For a statement of the work of this office since my last report, I refer you to the report of the hydrographer to the chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

ORDNANCE.

When the war closed, the armament of the Navy was in a very confused and unsatisfactory state. The necessity of fitting out hurriedly irregular vessels had pressed into service all the obsolete armament on hand, while the war itself had developed the absolute necessity of efficient rifle armaments for any navy which was hereafter to contend on equal terms with the ships of hostile powers. Under these circumstances, notwithstanding the requirements of a rigorous economy in this expensive branch, and the desire to utilize the means on hand, which was proper and required after the drain of a great war, I have endeavored, as far as possible, to lay the foundation of a general system of progress in our ordnance, and to carry it as far forward as possible in its most pressing and least expensive particulars. During

my term of office there has been introduced a uniform system of breech-loading small arms, a supply of Gatling guns, with the carriages and equipment adapted to their use ashore and afloat.

A system of breech-loading howitzers has also been devised, and is now issued to the Service. An entire rifle armament of 8-inch guns, with suitable mechanical carriages, has been placed on board the *Trenton*, the first in our Navy. Successful experiments have been made for the conversion of our supply of Parrott rifles into breech-loaders, as the only means of arming our small vessels of little beam, with guns efficient in modern naval warfare; and many other experiments have been made in this direction, which have demonstrated the possibility of most favorable results, if properly pursued.

The torpedo school has been, under the able officers and professors charged with its direction, a most valuable school for practice and instruction in what I believe to be a most useful and inexpensive adjunct to our means of offensive and defensive warfare, and destined to play a great part in all future naval wars.

The subject of gunpowder has also received much attention, and successful experiments have been made to determine the necessary elements of its best manufacture, to the end that we may have it of uniform and safe quality. Most of the accidents which befell our rifled cannon were due to the unsuitable powder which, under the pressure of war, we were forced to procure from all sources, without time for the experimental tests necessary to determine the quality proper for these guns, then newly introduced.

NAVY-YARDS.

I beg to renew the recommendations made in my successive annual reports in reference to our Navy-yards and stations, and to urge that their resources may be increased, and that sufficient appropriations may be made to keep them in thorough repair, and ready for any emergency which may arise.

The sum of \$750,000 for maintenance and \$500,000 for repairs and preservation of all the Navy-yards and stations was appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876. This amount was carefully allotted to the different yards and stations according to their relative importance and necessities, and has been judiciously expended.

At the Boston, New York, Norfolk, and Pensacola Navy-yards little has been accomplished beyond keeping the docks, workshops, and piers in a fair state of repair.

During the spring and summer of the present fiscal year, thorough repairs should be made at the Navy-yards named; but the appropriation is so inadequate for the amount of work necessary to be done, that only minor reparations can be attended to, and, consequently, largely increased appropriations will be indispensable for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878.

New London, Conn.—At the naval station, New London, there has been expended during the last fiscal year, for maintenance of station, for grading the site, for completing storehouse, repairs to wharf, and the erection of stables, blacksmith shop, and watch house, the sum of \$57,717.07.

League Island, Pa.—By authority of an act of Congress, the old Navy-yard at Philadelphia was sold at public auction on the 2d day of December, 1875. Prior to the sale, arrangements had been made for the removal of all material, stores, and other public property from the Navy-yard to League Island. Temporary wooden buildings had been provided for the reception of the stores, and the Philadelphia Navy-yard was delivered to the purchaser upon the day specified in the terms of sale.

Since the removal of the Philadelphia Navy-yard to League Island much work has been done in deepening the back channel and filling in, building foundations, the superstructures of which will be partially, and in some instances wholly, erected from old material removed from the Philadelphia Navy-yard. There are now in process of construction, under contract, extension of main wharf, foot of Broad street; causeway across back channel; storage and mold loft; extension of wharf No. 2; and completion of steam engineering buildings; and by Bureau of Yards and Docks, temporary machine shop for Bureau of Steam Engineering; temporary blacksmith shop for Bureau of Construction and Repair; foundations for officers' quarters nearly finished, and the buildings themselves will be commenced in the spring.

At Mare Island the buildings have been kept in repair, and the appropriation for the stone dry dock has been advantageously expended. The sum appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877, for the continuance of the work upon the dry dock, is merely sufficient to prevent deterioration of work already accomplished, to keep in repair the coal steam, and to have a small reserve in hand in case of any unforeseen accident.

The report of the board of five commissioned officers, ordered by Congress "to examine fully and determine whether any of the Navy-yards can be dispensed with," etc., will be forwarded when received.

I beg to call attention to the estimates of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, and to say that in consequence of the insufficient appropriations of the past few years the sums asked for, although largely in excess of the appropriation for the last and present fiscal years, are indeed less than true economy and the needs of the Service demand.

CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.

The naval exhibits at the United States Centennial Exhibition, which opened May 10 and closed Nov. 10, were under charge of Rear Admiral Thornton A. Jenkins, assisted by some other officers of the Navy, detailed in connection with the different bureaus represented there. For a better understanding of the extent of the exhibit I refer you to the synopsis of the classes of articles displayed, which will be found in the appendix, and to the following extracts from Rear-Admiral Jenkins's report to the Department:

"Without presuming to pass judgment upon the professional or popular estimates as mere exhibits of the articles and objects arranged in the naval section of the Government building, I may be permitted to say that the opinions of all classes of persons, so far as I have heard, have been most favorable, and greatly to the credit of the Naval Department and naval Service of the country."

"On the 5th of May (five days in advance of the formal opening of the Exhibition) the exhibits in the naval section were arranged and in the main labeled in English, French, and German, showing sections, classes, numbers, names, and description of each object. A catalogue embracing every object on exhibition, was prepared and widely distributed among the different foreign commissioners and the representatives of the different States and Territories of the United States."

"A few weeks prior to the close of the Exhibition, the very unique and highly interesting exhibits presented by His Majesty the King of Siam to the United States through Rear-Admiral Reynolds (commanding the Asiatic station), and the Navy Department, were received at the Government building, and within a week these curious, wonder inspiring articles were all arranged in cases and on tables, all properly labeled, and a catalogue made out."

"I trust I may be permitted to say, in conclusion, that, whatever may have been the misgiving as to probable success, in the outset of the undertaking, the naval exhibit at the International Centennial Exhibit of 1876 has been most creditable to the Navy."

NAVY PENSION FUND.

The following is a statement of the number and yearly amount of pension of the Navy on the rolls June 30, 1876, and the amount which was paid during that fiscal year:

	On roll June 30, 1876.	Annual amount of roll.	Amount paid for pensions during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1876.
Navy Invalids.....	1,643	\$183,716	\$187,189 72
Navy widows and others.....	1,744	287,726	300,839 39
Total.....	3,387	471,442	488,029 11

COALING STATION, ST. MARY'S RIVER, MARYLAND.

On the 13th of April, 1874, the House of Representatives passed a resolution directing me to appoint a board of naval officers to inquire as to the expediency of establishing, at the harbor of the St. Mary's River, Md., a naval coaling station. On the 14th of January, 1875, I submitted to the House of Representatives the report of said board of naval officers for the consideration and

action of Congress. I now have the honor to call, through you, the attention of Congress to the same subject for such action as they may think fit. If the coaling station is to be established, an appropriation of \$10,000 will be needed.

ESTIMATES AND EXPENDITURES.

On the 1st of July, 1875, the amount of the appropriations applicable to the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, was \$13,301,731.37. The actual expenditure of these appropriations during that period, namely, from July 1, 1875, to June 30, 1876, was \$17,957,354.72, or about \$4,655,623.35 less than the whole amount.

The appropriations available for the present year, commencing July 1, 1876, are, in the aggregate, \$12,961,750.90. The whole amount of these appropriations drawn, up to the 1st of the current month, was \$7,879,737.19. From this may be deducted the amount in the hands of the paymasters and agents of the Government and the amounts refunded during the period above mentioned, which will reduce the amount of these appropriations actually expended since the commencement of this fiscal year, and during the working months, to less than \$7,000,000. A statement of the monthly expenditure of these appropriations since July 1, 1875, is hereto annexed and will make part of this report. The estimates for the general maintenance of the Navy for the next year are as follows:

Estimates.	
Pay of officers and seamen of the Navy.....	\$7,300,000 00
Pay of civil establishments in navy-yards.....	305,922 00
Ordnance and Torpedo Corps.....	445,575 00
Coal, hemp, and equipments.....	1,320,000 00
Navigation and navigation supplies.....	1,136 44
Hydrographic work.....	89,800 00
Naval Observatory, Nautical Almanac, etc.....	54,300 00
Repairs and preservation of vessels, etc.....	3,300,000 00
Steam machinery, tools, etc.....	2,000,000 00
Provisions and clothing.....	1,403,721 85
Repairs of hospitals and laboratories.....	40,000 00
Surplus necessities.....	40,000 00
Contingent expenses of various departments and bureaus.....	351,000 00
Naval Academy.....	199,262 40
Support of Marine Corps.....	905,789 00
Naval Asylum, Philadelphia.....	63,597 00
Maintenance of yards and docks.....	602,029 00

The amount estimated for new buildings and the repairs and improvements necessary at the various navy-yards, stations, and hospitals is \$2,908,536.

There is also submitted by the Bureau of Ordnance an estimate for the sum of \$775,500 deemed necessary to provide the proper armament for our large iron-clads and other ships now being fitted for sea. This shows an aggregate sum of about \$300,000 less than the amount which was asked for last year for the same purpose.

How small these appropriations of less than \$13,000,000 really are for the carrying on of our naval service at this time will be seen by comparing them with the naval appropriations made in 1856 (\$15,701,968.49); in 1857 (\$14,125,434.55); in 1858 (\$13,109,359.36); and in 1859 (\$15,987,079.49), a period when the Navy consisted of only about 50 sailing vessels, with a dozen side-wheel steamers, and about the same number of screw vessels, against the 32 sailing ships and 130 steamers now on the register; when our motive power was the free wind of heaven, and our ships were not supplied with expensive steam machinery of great weight, occupying great space on shipboard, and required neither the large supply of fuel, appliances, and material necessary to the use of this machinery, nor the numerous body of officers and men employed to prepare, operate, and preserve it; when armored ships were unknown, and the armaments of our most powerful cruisers consisted principally of 32 and 64-pounders, against 300-pound rifles and 15-inch guns of these times; when the materials and supplies for naval use were comparatively cheap; when skilled labor was not half its present price, and its working hours had not been reduced by one-fifth; and when the pay roll of the Navy had not assumed half its present proportions, and contained but few invalids and no reserve list.

But, however small the appropriations may be, it is nevertheless the duty of the Department to reduce the expenses of the Service upon the same scale, as far as it can be done within the provisions of existing laws. This it has endeavored to do, though it is not often economical nor always possible, to confine the expenses of a military establishment within fixed and unyielding limits. This is especially the case with the naval service, scattered all over the globe, often at the mercy of the natural elements, and away from the aid of the Government, which neither the Department nor the Government can foresee, for which they are not responsible, and which they can neither direct nor control. In endeavoring to adapt itself to this necessity, the Department has been crippled in carrying on much important work which was already in progress, and which is rendered more expensive by this delay; and it has also been constrained to put in force upon the Service generally the provisions of law which authorized it to place officers on "furlough pay." The power of Congress to limit the appropriations for "pay" to the requirements of this provision of existing law, and the power and duty of the Department, when so limited, to put the provision in force, will hardly be questioned by any one who can bring to the consideration of the subject an unbiased legal judgment.

That the intent of Congress was so to limit the appropriations is unquestionable, in view of their statements, debates, and actions at the time, and of the fact that they were fully informed, that the appropriations made upon this principle would impose upon the Department the duty of carrying out the spirit of their legislation, as far as it could be done under the law as it stood on the statute book, rather than to make a deficiency by disregarding their action and its intent. The "pay" provided by these provisions, however, was not adapted to the circumstances and necessities of the present times, and they had grown obsolete in practice, except for the purpose of punishment; and whatever was their original intent, they cannot now be enforced upon the service as a whole without great inconvenience and privation to officers and their families, entailing, in many instances, personal hardship which, in the case of the deserving, amounts almost to absolute injustice.

You are fully aware how disagreeable this duty was to the Department; but you understood, also, how it had no alternative but to discharge it. Burdensome as its effect has been to the naval service, I am gratified to be able to say that it has been received by the officers generally with dignity and courage. There has been some fault finding and some foolish criticism; but the fault finding, as far as I am informed, has been confined to those who have been least affected, and who, in the present as in the past, have the least cause to complain of the action of the Government or the action of the Department. Those who are charged with the burdens of official duty must expect always to meet the criticism of that class, who, without consideration or responsibility themselves, are ever ready to question the motives and actions of others.

After careful consideration of this subject, being convinced that Congress, when they fully understand it, will have no real desire to withhold from any branch of the service the pay which would accrue to it under the ordinary operations of the laws and customs governing the action of the Department, and will not wish to deprive well-deserving officers, whose lives are consecrated to their country's service, and to whom no personal fault is imputed, of the means for the proper support and education of their families, I have, besides the ordinary estimates for the next fiscal year, submitted an additional one for the sum of \$1,550,000, to supply the inevitable deficiency in the "pay" appropriation, and to enable the Department to rescind its order placing all unemployed officers on "furlough pay," and to make up to those who have been or may be so reduced, without fault on their part, the amount of pay which they would otherwise have received. Congress will be earnestly pressed to make this provision, and if they do so, the Department will have great gratification in carrying it out, and responsible officers of the Department will have no alternative but to submit to the deficiency and the reduction which it entails.

In conclusion, I take this last opportunity to again express my sense of the many and heavy obligations which I am under to the experienced officers and clerks employed in the Department and elsewhere in its service, and to the officers of the Navy as a class, for their constant assistance in the discharge of the many duties of this responsible office which have devolved upon me during my term of office. If anything of good has been accomplished, it is to them that the country is largely indebted.

GEO. M. ROBERTSON, Secretary of the Navy.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE RIFLE.

STATE RANGES.—The *Oswego Times* laments the local prejudices which, it alleges, influence the military legislation and administration of the State. It says:

"Now everything that is done is done in the interest of a few regiments, and those regiments are situated in New York and Brooklyn. Most of the money appropriated is for the benefit of the city regiments. Of course a complete military organization is needed in the large cities, and every attention should be given to it, but the militia of the rural districts should not be neglected. If it is desirable, it should be fostered and encouraged. If it is not needed, let it be disbanded, but so long as it is in existence (and no one doubts the necessity for its existence) it should be properly cared for. In nothing is this partiality and one-sidedness so much shown as in rifle practice. The State Legislature sets apart a certain amount each year to pay the expense of rifle practice for the National Guard, besides the amounts which have been appropriated for the establishment of Creedmoor. The State has not appropriated a cent directly for the establishment of ranges at other points, and nearly all of the annual appropriation goes to Creedmoor. There is no reason for this. Creedmoor is not even a suitable place for a range for the 1st and 2d Divisions—it is too far away and they cannot afford to visit for the practice required. As for the other regiments—the country regiments—it is impossible for them to send teams to the annual meetings at Creedmoor, to say nothing of visiting them for practice. It seems to us to be the duty of the Legislature to appropriate some of the money for rifle practice for the establishment of ranges more centrally located and more convenient of access for the whole National Guard. Recent events at Creedmoor have shown, also, that the management of Creedmoor is in bad hands, and has convinced us that all State matches should be shot under the supervision of State officers and entirely independent of the officers of any association, any or all of whom may be interested in the result. There are ranges at Albany, Syracuse, and Rochester, which are much more convenient for the use of the National Guard of the State, and we believe it to be the duty of the Legislature to appropriate sufficient money to put at least one of them in as good condition as Creedmoor, so that the State matches may be shot there and a more general attendance of the National Guard secured."

FIFTH BRIGADE.—Major Herbert S. Jewell, I. R. P. of this brigade, in his annual report, says: In the main the results achieved by the different organizations of the brigade have been good. By the table of comparative analysis given herewith it will be observed that in the matter of steady improvement and advance in the different classes the 13th regiment stands first; in each and every point it has made an advance. In no other regiment of the brigade has there been less than an increase of seven per cent. of third class shots, while the 13th has decreased the number twenty-one per cent., and that too in the face of an increase present at last inspection of fifty-five. It has also increased by a very large percentage the number of second class shots, and has only been excelled in the number of marksman made by a very small percentage. The figure of merit of the regiment has been advanced only 2.22 per cent., and in that respect does not do it justice. And just here I wish to call your attention to the tables of comparison of the 13th and 14th regiments. By a comparison of the two tables it will be observed that in every class except the marksmen the first is a very heavy gainer over the second; yet by the system of computing the figures of merit, the second has beaten the first by advancing their figures of merit fifty-five per cent. more. The work done by the 13th during the year has been very satisfactory, and this is in large measure due to the care and perseverance of the company officers who, with one or two exceptions, have cordially co-operated with the brigade and regimental inspectors. The 14th, although increasing its figure of merit more than any other regiment, has not made the advance of which it is capable, and which its able inspector, under favorable conditions, can develop. This is owing almost entirely to the lack of armory practice during last winter and spring. When the improvements and additions to their armory are completed Captain Fagan will without doubt advance the regiment very fast. As it is, they are second on the list in general improvement, and their team was the only infantry team of the brigade that was able to cope successfully in the fall meeting of the National Rifle Association. The practice of the 15th Battalion has not been satisfactory, and their poor showing has been entirely owing to the carelessness and neglect of its rifle inspector. For the 28th regiment I have no data except the unaccepted return of last year, by which to make comparison. If that return was just and correct the regiment has retrograded; but if the scores returned to the inspector were not correct no just comparison can be made. I am of the opinion that the regiment has advanced, and that with possibly a single exception no charge can be made against it. I believe the regiment will show well at the close of next season's practice. The Separate Troop of Cavalry has done well, and its figure of merit is second only to that of the 14th regiment, although falling 4.28 per cent. below that of last year. Captain Sandhusen deserves great credit for the manner in which he has discharged the additional duties of rifle inspector, and for the very creditable showing he has made for his troop during the last two years.

NEW YORK

NINTH REGIMENT.—In view of the necessity to reuniform the band (a fact which must be apparent to all) the officers of the regiment, at a recent meeting, resolved to give a grand hop at the armory, Dec. 13, the proceeds to be devoted exclusively to the above object. The musical selections will be entirely new, and we have no doubt that the affair will prove the success it deserves to be. Tickets can be had upon application to commanders of companies, or from members of the committee, viz.: Lieut.-Col. M. P. L. Montgomery, Capt. Geo. A. Hussey, Lieut. M. A. Herla.

The first of the series of concerts, for the benefit of the band fund, was held Wednesday evening, Dec. 13, and was a grand success, there being nearly 3,000 present. The fine band of 50 pieces, under the leadership of Major Downing, discoursed a new and select programme of music. Companies I, H, and D entertained their lady friends to a supper at 12 o'clock, and Company B had a huge basket of flowers on the centre table of their room, and presented to each lady friend of the company a bouquet of flowers. There were thirty representatives from the Old Guard in uniform, and members from the 8th, 71st, 22d, and 7th regiment present, and also 23d and 13th of Brooklyn. The next concert will be held in January.

THE TWELFTH REGIMENT AND THE BROOKLYN SUFFERERS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Recognizing the importance of immediate relief for the families bereaved by the late terrible disaster in Brooklyn, the Independence Dramatic Club—composed of officers and men of the 12th regiment, N. G., S. N. Y.—will, for the benefit of the sufferers, give an Amateur Dramatic performance at the Lexington Avenue Opera House on Wed-

nesday evening, December 27. On this occasion Mr. J. G. Johnson's drama of "The Shamrock" will be reproduced with the original cast, as performed by the Club June 16, 1876, viz.:

Lady Maude Montravers.....	Miss Hartley
Norah Cromie.....	Miss Stuart
Ellen.....	Miss Gaynor
Matt Cromie.....	Capt. C. S. Burns
Lord Montravers.....	Corp. J. F. McGuen
Col. Lacey.....	Lieut. A. H. Herts
Capt. Courtney.....	Lieut. C. E. Ferring
Sergt. Kearney.....	Lieut. G. G. Hart
Corp. Burke.....	Sergt. H. S. Lovell
Patsy Lawlor.....	Drum-Major G. W. Brown
Valentine McClutchey.....	Adjut. W. H. Murphy

In making this tender to the committee, we, as members of the National Guard, feel that each officer and man of the 1st Division will use every exertion to aid in this noble work, and that the returns from their united efforts will assist in driving the wolf from the door of the afflicted. "Charity covereth a multitude of sins." On behalf of the Club, Very respectfully,

W. H. MURPHY, President.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—The officers and enlisted men of this command are ordered to assemble, in full-dress uniform, at the regimental armory, Flatbush avenue and Hanson place, on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 8 o'clock p. m., for review by Gen. James Jourdan, commanding 5th Brigade. Enlisted men, not fully equipped, will report in fatigue uniform, white belts and gloves.

On the evening of Tuesday, December 12, this regiment assembled at the Hanson place armory, Brooklyn, for review and dress parade. The reviewing officer, Brigadier and Brevet Maj.-Gen. James Jourdan, accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Samuel Richards, Majors W. M. Ivins, J. Lester Keop, Herbert S. Jewell, Capt. Wm. M. Overton, J. Henry Storey, Charles L. Boynton, and Lieut. Fitch J. Stranahan, of the 5th Brigade staff, and Col. King, of the 2d Brigade. The ceremonies were witnessed by many distinguished military men, including Maj.-Gen. Thomas S. Dakin, commanding 2d Division; Brig.-Gen. Ira L. Beebe, commanding 11th Brigade; Col. James McLeer, commanding 14th regiment; Col. Wm. J. Denslow, chief of staff 2d Division; Col. Isaac F. Bissell, Henry Glasser, Lieut.-Col. Benjamin E. Valentine, Maj. Jas. E. Hayes, Wm. J. Powell, and Lieut. Morrison J. Hoyt, from General Headquarters, with Capt. Willis L. Ogden and ex-Capt. E. H. Van Ingen, of the 23d, 47th, and 14th regiments were also in attendance. The review was followed by dress parade, at the conclusion of which a G. O. was read, publishing a resolution adopted by the police authorities thanking the officers and members of the 13th for the services voluntarily performed by them in doing guard duty at the fire. The parade was followed by a ball, which was maintained with spirit until long after midnight. In Company B First Sergeant Wm. A. Brown has been elected second lieutenant. In fifteen years of service, extending from May, 1862, up to the present, and covering the Virginia campaign, the Pennsylvania campaign, and the 1863 draft riots, Lieut. Brown has never missed but one parade. First Lieut. J. Frank Dillont, of Co. C, has been unanimously elected captain of Co. F.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.—This regiment will assemble at the armory for drill, in fatigue uniform and overcoats, Friday evening, December 22, at 8 o'clock. The resignations of Major William J. A. McGrath and Captain R. Kelly Styles, of this command, have been accepted by the Commander-in-Chief. The following promotion and appointment are announced: Private Leon Backer (the rifleman), Company F, has been commissioned second lieutenant, with rank from June 20, vice Aderton, resigned; Commissary-Sergeant William J. Maidhof is appointed sergeant-major, vice Boucher, warrant vacated at his own request. First Lieutenant George H. Moller, Jr., will assume command of Company A during the absence of Captain John Waydell, on leave.

THIRTY-SECOND REGIMENT.—This regiment has adopted a new style of coat. It is made of dark blue cloth, with red facings. A hair plume will be attached to the helmets worn by the officers. Pursuant to orders received from brigade headquarters on Friday evening, Dec. 8, to parade on the following day in the obsequies of the victims of the Brooklyn Theatre, the 32d regiment was equalized into eight commands of ten files each, at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning. The regiment presented a handsome appearance. While on the march to join the 11th Brigade the order was countermanded, much to the displeasure of the men and joy of "dot German band." The men were comfortably encased in overcoats. Lieut.-Col. Rueger, commanding, deserves credit for the energetic manner he displayed in mustering so many men in so short time.

The vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Col. Henry E. Hoehr will be filled next Tuesday evening. There is no doubt whatever that he will be succeeded by Lieut.-Col. John Rueger, a very energetic and capable officer. Lieut.-Col. Rueger's successor will be the recently elected Major Louis Bassett, an officer who has contributed his share toward building up this organization. Capt. Louis Finkelmeier, of Co. C, is very favorably spoken of for the majority, a position which he would fill with credit to himself and honor to the regiment. He has been treasurer of the 32d regiment since its organization.

THE GOVERNOR'S STAFF.—Governor-elect Robinson, of New York, has designated the following as his staff officers: Major-Gen. Franklin Townsend, Adjutant-General; Brevet Major-Gen. John B. Woodward, Inspector-General; Commissary-General, and Chief of Ordnance, to be appointed by the Governor and Senate; Brig.-Gen. James Pearsall, Engineer in Chief; Brig.-Gen. Charles Hughes, Judge-Advocate-General; Brig.-Gen. Austin Flint, Jr., Surgeon-General; Brig.-Gen. Clarence Campbell, Quartermaster-General; Brig.-Gen. Herman Uhl, Paymaster-General; Brig.-Gen. Charles Tracey, Commissary-General of Subsistence; Col. Thomas Stokes, Aide-de-Camp; Col. Clifford A. H. Bartlett, Aide-de-Camp; Col. Robert Olyphant, Aide-de-Camp; Col. Charles C. Lodewick, Aide-de-Camp; Col. Jas. McQuade, Jr., Aide-de-Camp, and Col. George W. Wingate, General Inspector of Rifle Practice. But few changes have been made from the staff of Governor Tilden; Gen. Pearsall and Tracey have been advanced from the positions as Aides-de-Camp.

NEW JERSEY.

INSTRUCTION.—Brig.-Gen. De Hart, 2d Brigade (N. G., S. N. J.), has ordered his officers to assemble for instruction as follows:

Seventh regiment and Co. B, Cavalry (armory of Co. A, Trenton), Dec. 7, 1876; Jan. 4, 1877; Feb. 1, 1877; March 1, 1877.

Third regiment and Co. A, Cavalry (armory of 3d regiment), Dec. 14, 1876; Jan. 11, 1877; Feb. 8, 1877; March 8, 1877.

Sixth regiment (armory of 6th regiment), Dec. 21, 1876; Jan. 18, 1877; Feb. 15, 1877; March 15, 1877.

Field, line and staff officers must be present, or furnish proper excuse for absence. The brigade commander will act as instructor.

RHODE ISLAND

Companies A and B, Third Battalion of Infantry, assembled at their armory in Westerly on December 4, and were inspected by Gen. Dennis and Capt. Arnold. The major being absent, the senior captain had command. The two companies were marched to the Dixon House, where Capt. Brown received the inspecting officers and guests into line and marched his command to their armory, where inspection immediately began. All property was rigidly and thoroughly inspected. The arms were found in excellent condition, but the equipments not in use were not in as good order. The appearance of men was very fine; well set up, and fine material. The books and papers were very finely kept, especially the battalion books kept by the adjutant. The general and special order books are perfect. The orders, returns, etc., are properly kept on file. The adjutant deserves especial credit for his soldierly and military manner of discharging the duties of his office. Present at inspection, 5 officers and 61 men; band, 16. The two companies are in charge of earnest and well trained officers, and their men have reached a good standard in drill and discipline. Inspection over, appropriate remarks were made by Major-Gen. Walker and Gen. Dennis and Chace.

Company B, Fourth Battalion Infantry.—This command under Capt. Hallett paraded at their armory, in Providence, December 5, and were inspected by General Dennis and Capt. Arnold. The arms and equipments not fully up to standard. Lieut. McSoley drilled his company in the manual, which was well executed; the present and right shoulder, with marked excellence. Forming fours from twos, marching to the rear, and company fronts show that men attend well to the instructions given. Present at inspection 3 officers, 33 men, 2 musicians. Many ladies were present; and inspection over, brief remarks were made by Gen. Miller and Dennis, Capt. Arnold, Lieut.-Col. Howe, and Capt. Hallett. The inspection passed off very pleasantly.

Company A, Fourth Battalion of Infantry, was inspected in their armory at Woonsocket December 5 by Gen. Dennis and Capt. Arnold, and a very marked improvement has been made within the last year. The arms were in good condition, but equipments not used were not properly presented for inspection, and carelessly kept. Present at inspection 3 officers, 38 men. Drill of company fair.

Company E, Fifth Battalion, was inspected in their armory at Woonsocket December 5 by General Dennis and Capt. Arnold. Property in good condition. Present 3 officers, 28 men, 1 musician. Drill of command very ordinary.

Company B, Second Battalion, paraded at their armory at Newport December 8, and were inspected by Gen. Dennis and Capt. Arnold. Arms and equipments are kept in fine condition, as is all the State property in hands of company; men well set up, and in good drill in manual and marching, right front into line and on right into line. Present at inspection 3 officers, 31 men. Remarks were made encouraging commands by inspecting officers and by Gen. Bendrick.

Company D, Sixth Battalion Infantry, paraded in their new armory at Newport December 8, and were inspected by Gen. Dennis and Capt. Arnold. Property and arms in good condition; armory much better lighted and better adapted to company drill than on vacated. Manual of arms well gone through with, but men not fully up to standard in marching; step slow and irregular. This command excel in keeping bright their brass on equipments. Present at inspection 3 officers, 33 men, 1 musician.

MASSACHUSETTS.

REGULAR V. IRREGULAR.—The need of more thorough instruction in the rules and customs of the military service has received fresh illustration in the very irregular proceedings which have just transpired in an organization of the State militia. It is alleged that charges and specifications against a captain were drawn up by the joint efforts of a lieutenant and about a dozen privates of his company. The charges affected the question of neglect of duty in that the non-commissioned officers of the company were not properly instructed. It is also alleged that the colonel of the regiment subsequently attended a meeting of part of the company, when the matter was discussed, at which the prosecutor presided, and the matter was discussed the accused being absent. Such are the facts as they come to us from a reliable source. Although we do not understand that any further steps have been taken by the officers and men referred to; and although their footsteps will probably be arrested ere they further commit themselves, yet their action so far is open to severe animadversion in the interests of discipline. Assuming that our facts are correct, the conduct of the lieutenant and men bears upon its face the nature of a mutinous conspiracy. Although the captain may have been "elected" by the votes of his subordinates as their commander, that result was in the nature of a simple nomination which required the ratification of the Commander-in-Chief of the State militia and a commission under the "broad seal" before he could properly exercise such military authority. Any irregular attempt to subvert or overthrow said authority is an offence ranging in degree from simple insubordination to rank mutiny, with penalties of corresponding magnitude. Applying the rules and customs of the Regular Army to the administration of militia affairs (within the State), so far as the State law does not conflict, the proper course in case of inefficiency or "neglect of duty" on the part of an officer would be the presentation of "charges" by any commissioned officer possessed of the facts. These charges should be forwarded through all intermediate commanders, with their remarks endorsed thereon, until they reached the authority competent to order a court-martial or court of inquiry. In case of the militia, the knowledge of discontent in the ranks brought to the captain's ears in an unofficial way should be sufficient to cause him to resign or demand an investigation by his colonel; or if the matter is deemed of sufficient importance, he should request a court of inquiry. But under no circumstances can there be a consultation between the other officers and the men on the matter, without a grave breach of discipline. In this connection, the following questions have been asked, which we answer in the light already alluded to:

1st. Can enlisted men ask for the resignation of any officer? *Ans.* In their civil capacity an intimation to that effect might reach the officer's ears, but he is not required to notice it, and their only other remedy is through the usual military channels, by asking a transfer to another company.

2d. Can an inferior prefer charges against a superior? *Ans.* Yes; a commissioned officer may "prefer charges" against his superior in the manner already stated. Soldiers may "appeal" to the colonel through the captain in case of alleged injustice on part of latter.

3d. Can company constitutions abridge the military power of a captain? *Ans.* No; military authority can only be abridged by the power that confers it.

4th. When enlisted men or inferiors prefer frail charges can they be held responsible? *Ans.* In such case they are liable to reprimand, and if malice is apparent, to counter-charges.

A Board of Inquiry was lately held in one of the battalions to pass upon a communication forwarded by the first lieutenant of the company. Some of the principal specifications against the captain being: "Allowing men to use each others uniforms;" "No notice taken of the wishes of a majority of the members;" "Non-commissioned officers not properly instructed." It is a matter of surprise that a Board should be convened for such a purpose, as the lieutenant is not the one to criticize his superior, neither is he the one to decide whether the "non-coms." are instructed. It has been always the rule that the members of the company conform to the wishes of the captain; and not he to theirs. The occurrences are rare where company commanders give the command please come to carry. It would seem as if the lieutenant was guilty of conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline. Again the rank of the officer entitled him to be tried by officers of his rank, but from very reliable information, two members of the Board were his inferiors.

The Fourth Battalion, Major A. C. Wellington, is to have an inspection of the several companies in their armories on Monday evening, Dec. 18th. Each company is to be inspected separately. This is the beginning of a series of drills which are to take place on every Monday evening.

VERMONT.

GOVERNOR FAIRBANKS, of Vermont, has made the following appointments on his staff: John A. Sheldon, of Rutland, to be aide-de-camp, with the rank of colonel; Julius J. Estey, of Brattleboro, to be aide-de-camp, with the rank of colonel; Albert C. Hubbell, of Bennington, to be aide-de-camp, with the rank of colonel; Albert W. Hastings, of St. Johnsbury, to be aide-de-camp, with the rank of colonel.

An act passed by the General Assembly of Vermont and approved November 28, 1876, provides "that whenever the militia force shall be reduced to ten companies of infantry, which shall not thereafter be increased, the Commander-in-Chief is authorized and directed to organize a battery of light artillery, consisting of not exceeding eighty officers and men, to be organized, armed, drilled and disciplined under such regulations as he shall prescribe." Another act approved the same day provides "that there shall be annually, between the first day of August and the twenty-fifth day of September in each year, a parade of each regiment and battery for drill, discipline, inspection and review."

VARIOUS ITEMS.

—COLONEL Austen, 47th (Brooklyn) regiment, is revising his manual for street firing.

—ACCORDING to the Philadelphia *Sunday World* the National Guard of that city needs reform in matters of equipment.

—Co. A, National Guard of Missouri, celebrated their anniversary by the usual Thanksgiving parade at St. Louis.

—EX-ADJUTANT-GENERAL John F. Rathbone, of the State of New York, intends visiting Europe during the ensuing year.

—THE Belleville (Ont.) *Intelligencer* remarks upon the final decision of the Oswego field rifle sights case that there must be "something rotten somewhere."

—New Regulations for the government of the N. G., S. N. Y., are now in press, and are shortly to be issued by Adjutant-General Townsend.

—MR. JOHN P. MAESTER, of the Separate Troop Cavalry (N. Y.), died November 26, and was buried with military and civil honors December 28.

—THE Pelouze Cadet Corps, of Detroit, have elected a successor to their late commandant (Lieut. Rogers, 1st U. S. Infantry) in the person of Major Fox. The election of civic officers takes place early in January.

—THE 6th regiment Massachusetts Vol. Militia will give a ball at City Hall, Lawrence, December 22. A band concert and competitive drill between Companies I and K are among the "features."

—It is undoubtedly flattering to see a liberal slice from one's editorial columns appear as the leading article in a contemporaneous newspaper; but is it "inadvertence" when our sporting friend fails to credit?

—CAPT. John Waydell, 23d regiment (N. G., S. N. Y.), was married December 5 to Miss Ida Estelle King, of New York city. Lieuts. Moller and Lepper acted as ushers, and the ceremony was complete in all its appointments.

—MAJOR-GEN. J. W. Husted, 5th Division, N. G., S. N. Y., was the surprised and gratified recipient of a gold badge presented by the members of his staff very recently. The badge, which is of unique design and faultless workmanship, is suspended from a clasp representing a miniature shoulder-strap (major-general's), which bears an appropriate inscription.

—IN the 23d Infantry, N. G., S. N. Y., Co. C, First Sergt. Albert Wilkinson has accepted the position of second lieutenant. Sergt. Ezra De Forest has been elected first sergeant, and Priv. George Backhouse and D. C. Mirrieles promoted corporals.

—THE burning of a theatre in Brooklyn, by which nearly 300 lives were lost, has taught the Brooklynites, as the great fire in Chicago did those of that city, that an organized military force has its uses in ordinary times. The 18th and 23d regiments offered their services, which were accepted, both to aid the over-worked police guarding the ruins of the theatre from intrusion, while the bodies were being searched for, and as an escort on the occasion of the funeral of the victims of the catastrophe.

—ON Monday evening Co. D, 33d Infantry, N. G., S. N. Y., Capt. Schmidt, celebrated the eighth anniversary of its formation. Beer, music, good looking girls, wine, pickelhaubens, and dancing were the main features of the "blow out." Among the speech making officers present were Lieut.-Col. Rueger, Major Hoesch, Adjutant Karcher, Capt. Wunder, Quartermaster Nabe, and Capt. Dillmeier. This company has furnished more officers than any other company in the regiment. Former members of it were Major Petry, Major Karcher, Major Bossert, Capt. Finkelmeier, Capt. Reitzner, and others.

—THE *Commercial Advertiser* says: A California paper compliments the Westchester Polo Club, which has done so much to introduce horsemanship in its true meaning, and to instill a desire to excel in the art. The paper adds: "The country which produces the best polo players will, in case of necessity, produce the best cavalry in the world." We will expect to see a cavalry regiment in this city come out of the Polo Club. It is true, no doubt, that good polo players would make grand cavalry officers, for not only are most of the different sabre cuts, together with some original motions, used in this game, but from the continual *melee*, the rushing to and fro, stopping and starting, turning around and around, and the continual changing of position in the saddle of the player, gives them that seat that gentlemen in the cities cannot otherwise acquire. We have the magnificent 7th regiment, made up of the sons of the best families in New York—a regiment that furnished a regiment of officers during the late civil war. Why not have a cavalry regiment made up of the same material as the 7th regiment? What a magnificent regiment the Westchester Polo Club might organize and what a magnificent military feature such a regiment would make. "It would be a thing of beauty and a joy forever." It is for the Westchester Polo Club to give us the most magnificent cavalry regiment in the world.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL must decline to decide points between officers and the men of their commands. No attention paid to fictitious signatures, unless accompanied by real name and address of writer.

READER (N. Y.) asks: If a person, having served his full time of enlistment, and informed his captain (having made formal application), need he continue to drill till the papers are returned him with colonial's signature? Is he not discharged the moment

his full time is up?—ANSWER.—After a careful examination of "An act to amend chap. 80 of the Laws of 1870, section 3," passed February 28, 1876, and promulgated in G. O. S. A. G. O., S. N. Y., March 6, 1876, we are of opinion that the following extract covers your case: "Every such non-commissioned officer, musician and private shall continue to be held to duty, and shall retain his rank and be eligible to promotion after the expiration of his term of enlistment or re-enlistment so long as he or the commandant of his . . . company omits to apply for his discharge, . . . and on such application being made his discharge shall not be granted until the expiration of three months from the date of the application, except when the application is made by the commandant, in which case the discharge may be granted immediately."

F. A. (St. Louis) asks: Will you be so kind as to inform me in your next JOURNAL about the examinations which one is required to pass to enter West Point, also the time? Is it similar to the one given for entering the Marine Corps, or is it more rigid? When appointed, do you receive a list of the articles you are to be examined on? ANSWER.—The following is from the "Official Register of the Military Academy": "The age for the admission of Cadets to the Academy is between seventeen and twenty-two years; but any person who served honorably and faithfully not less than one year as an officer or enlisted man in either the Regular or Volunteer service, in the late war for the suppression of the Rebellion, is eligible for appointment up to the age of twenty-four years. Candidates must be at least five feet in height, and free from any infectious or malarial disorder, and generally, from any deformity, disease, or infirmity, which may render them unfit for military service. They must be well versed in reading, in writing, including orthography, and in arithmetic, have a knowledge of the elements of English grammar, of descriptive geography, particularly of our own country, and of the history of the United States." Further details of the examination are then given: "A sound body and constitution, suitable preparation, good natural capacity, an aptitude for study, industrious habits, perseverance, an obedient and orderly disposition and a correct moral deportment, are such essential qualifications that candidates, knowingly deficient in any of these respects, should not, as many do, subject themselves and their friends to the chances of future mortification and disappointment, by accepting appointments at the Academy, and entering upon a career which they cannot successfully pursue."

R.—1. The General of the Army wears shoulder straps with four silver embroidered stars of five rays placed equidistant. 2. The Admiral of the Navy and the General of the Army have the same relative rank. 3. The Secretary of War has no military rank. He is "the regular constitutional organ of the President for the administration of the military establishment of the Nation, and rules and orders publicly promulgated through him must be received as the act of the executive, and as such be binding upon all within the sphere of his legal and constitutional authority." 4. The Vice-President has no authority except as the presiding officer of the Senate, and no rank which admits of comparison with that of the General of the Army. 5. "Scott's Analytical Digest of the Military Laws of the U. S." is the latest and best compendium of military law. The price is \$1.50. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.

S. F.—1. Can a young man obtain a commission in the Army after he has served a term of five years in the New York State militia, or do only graduates of West Point obtain commissions in the Army? 2. Between what ages can boys enter West Point? ANSWER.—1. Service in the militia gives no title to appointment in the Army. Civilians are appointed in the Army by the President, where they have sufficient influence, but only after an examination. 2. From 17 to 22. The age of admission to the English Royal Military Colleges is 17 to 22, for University graduates, 17 to 21 for students of Universities, and 17 to 20 for others.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE sons of two British Earls being doubtful of getting commissions have enlisted as privates. One has joined the cavalry and the other Viscount Maidstone, heir of the Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham, the artillery.

THE men of the Army Service Corps quartered at Woolwich are being instructed in the method of leading pack animals with forage, baggage, and the other impedimenta of an army on the march. The Ottag pack-saddle and small horses are used.

ACCORDING to the *Militair Zeitung*, the German army possesses at the present moment 62,304 horses, 6,493 being classed as "young horses." Of the total number 48,962 belong to the cavalry, 12,051 to the artillery, and 2,036 to the train of the army.

AN unlucky British naval officer, Lieut. Bowyer, who mortally wounded a Chinaman by accident while snipe shooting at Hong Kong, had to pay \$200 for his sport. The friends of the Chinaman seized the lieutenant and demanded \$3,000, but on the appearance of an armed party of blue jackets compromised on \$200.

THE London *World* reports that Lord Napier of Magdala will, in the event of his services being required, command the British army corps, which is to hold the lines of Constantinople against all comers, in trust for Europe. Sir Garnet Wolsley will command one division, and it is expected that Sir Daniel Lyons will have the other.

DESERTERS are reminded in a British Army Circular which has just been issued, that, under the Military Savings Bank and Regimental Debts Acts, the consequences that legally result from the offence of desertion are as follows: A soldier convicted by court-martial of desertion, or declared to be a deserter by a court

of inquiry in the usual manner, thereupon forfeits all moneys which he may have in the Military Savings Bank, all pay that may be due to him, and all such of his effects as are in camp or quarters when the desertion occurs in the United Kingdom, or are within the station, colony, or command, when the desertion occurs out of the United Kingdom. He also forfeits any money found upon his person, and the plain clothes he may be wearing at the time of his apprehension.

A GERMAN paper states that the Austrian fleet in Turkish waters is to be powerfully reinforced, and that the two iron-clad turret ships named *Austria* and *Curtatza* are under orders to proceed to the Levant. The Austrian fleet for active service now consists of eight armor-clad turret ships, three iron-clad frigates, three steam frigates, five corvettes, five first-class gun-boats, and a number of smaller vessels and transports.

THE Copenhagen correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* reports that a Copenhagen firm has received an order for several thousand Russian uniforms, to be delivered within a short time, and the *Allgemeine Zeitung* states that the Russian government has just concluded a contract with a large German firm at Halberstadt for the supply of 140,000 tons of lead, to be delivered at the towns and ports arranged within six weeks.

THE *Invalide Russe* reports that the garrison of Sevastopol has lately been practising night-firing by the light of certain new-pattern light balls manufactured at Nicolaieff. The artillery practice was considered good, but the infantry fire was indifferent, owing to the slowness of the men in aiming. The balls threw a powerful light, but only burned for eight seconds. Some of the best rifle-shots managed to fire two rounds in that time. The experiments are held to have demonstrated the impossibility of keeping up a continuous fusillade under such circumstances.

THE Mahomedan subjects of the Empress of India are taking up subscriptions "for the wounded of the Ottoman army, for the sick, and for the widows and orphans of the martyred soldiers." They addressed a petition to Queen Victoria praying that her Majesty would adhere to the friendly alliance which had hitherto subsisted between Great Britain and the Ottoman Government, and begging that she would not listen to those Englishmen who wished her to withdraw her friendship from the Muslims of Turkey.

It must be very gratifying to the Russian people to learn that the subscriptions in St. Petersburg and Moscow alone to the loan of 100,000,000 roubles (\$80,000,000), authorized by the Imperial ukase of November 18, already exceed that amount. An Imperial ukase has been promulgated, providing that after the 1st of January next customs duties shall be payable in gold or coupons negotiable abroad, and also relieving common carriers from responsibility under contracts for early delivery of merchandise where interfered with by circumstances beyond their control.

WOOLWICH cannot turn out artillery officers as fast as they are required. Owing to the great demand for young artillery officers, it has been found necessary to diminish the course of some of the best of the cadets from two and a half to two years. The *Army and Navy Gazette* thinks that too much stress is laid on the necessity of a high theoretical education for artillery officers, and is by no means sure that the French system of giving commissions to non-commissioned officers after little more than a practical examination is not founded on reason. It also concurs in the recommendation that elementary conic sections should be considered an obligatory subject of instruction, knowledge of that branch of mathematics being surely essential to the training of a scientific gunner. Engineers, the same paper argues, from their slight intercourse with soldiers, are unfitted for any high command, save the governorships of fortresses.

THE late death of an English veteran, one of the heroes of Waterloo, has directed the attention of the German press to an old soldier named Orland, in Burgsteinfurt, in Westphalia, to whom the people jokingly attribute the victory of Waterloo. Orland was orderly trumpeter of the Prussian General Bulow, who on the day of battle commanded the vanguard of Blucher's army hurrying to the support of Wellington. On Bulow, after a long march, appearing on the afternoon on the heights of Mont St. Jean, he ordered his trumpeter Orland to blow a signal for gathering. The latter, however, misunderstanding him, rushed on to the cavalry and blew, "Attack, attack." By this lucky error the hardly-pressed Wellington received

succor some time earlier, a circumstance of no inconsiderable importance to the struggling British line. After the battle Bulow sent for his orderly, and after reprimanding his want of attention, said, "Orland, I shall never forget your service." The trumpeter, who, after quitting the army, became an officer of a court, now lives on a miserable pension, poor, nearly blind, and forgotten, in the small Westphalian town above mentioned.

ACCORDING to a Constantinople correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "there is a very great change in the tone and style of the palace since the accession of Sultan Abdul Hamid. The eunuchs that lounged by hundreds about the doors have disappeared, the two famous dwarfs are gone, the personnel of the palace has all been organized, useless hangers-on dismissed, and a scale of pay instituted which gives a fair remuneration for a fixed duty. The stables have been put in order, and everything is quiet, orderly, and moderate in the Imperial household. The Sultan is not a man of much instruction, measured by the European standard, but he is not ignorant, or prejudiced, or fanatical. He has forbidden those about him to continue the servile etiquette of the past; the slavish acquiescence, the abject mien, the crawlings and prostrations—all these are done away with; and the Sultan requires that those who approach him shall do so with a proper measure of deference and respect, but with figure erect and eyes neither averted nor cast down. Abdul Hamid has great faith in Englishmen and all that is English, and the men about him have been chosen to a great extent in view of their kindred sympathies." The office of Grand Vizier is to be abolished and the age of ministerial dummies brought to a close. "Irritated at the complaints which reach him," this correspondent reports, the Sultan "takes the Grand Vizier to task, and frequently asks what all the other Ministers are about. The Grand Vizier replies, 'They take their orders from me,' and tenders his resignation. The Sultan replies, 'I shall not accept your resignation, but I desire that the work of public business be distributed as it is in other European countries; and, look you,' said His Majesty the other day, 'if you and I between us cannot manage to bring up this country to the level of European civilization, we had better go at once and tend camels in the deserts of Arabia, as our forefathers did, for that's what it will come to sooner or later.'"

GOOD THIRTY HOUR CLOCKS BY MAIL!

MESSRS. S. B. JEROME & CO., New Haven, Ct., advertise in another column an article of necessity for every reader of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL*. Combining cheapness and neatness, durability and accuracy, these clocks are very desirable and are placed within the reach of all.

See advertisement "Cigars by Mail," A. M. Platt, New Haven, Ct.

H. N. SQUIRE, 97 FULTON ST.—Watches, Jewelry, Diamonds. Sterling Silver, &c., Rogers' and Meriden Plated Ware 25 per cent. less than manufacturers' prices.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages and Births FIFTY CENTS each, and the signature and address of the party sending must accompany the notice.]

RUMPLER-SHELLOO.—On Dec. 6, 1876, by the Right Rev. Bishop Machen, Mr. ALEXANDER RUMPLER, of Berlin (late Sergt. Co. H, 5th Cavalry), to Miss MARY SHELLOO, of Leavenworth, Kansas, at Denver, Colorado.

DIED.

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.

GOVE.—At Milwaukee, of scarlet fever, Dec. 4, FRANCIS W., aged 2 years and 4 months, only child of Francis M. and Emma B. Gove.

POUSIN.—"Died in Paris, France, Nov. —, 1876, WM. TELL POUSIN, formerly French Minister to the United States, aged 84." The above notice appeared in the *New York Herald* a few days since. Major Pousin served as an officer in the Topographical Engineers of our Army for fifteen years. He was appointed captain in 1857 and resigned in 1862, having been promoted to major. After resigning he returned to France, where he held many important staff positions in the army. He was also entrusted with many civil duties, all of which he discharged well.

RODENBROUGH.—At Easton, Pa., on Monday, Dec. 11, EMILY CAUFFMAN, wife of the late Charles Rodenbrough, in the 71st year of her age. Funeral on Friday, Dec. 15.

WEBB.—At Oakland, Cal., suddenly, on Dec. 2, WATSON WEBB, late captain 3rd Artillery, U. S. Army, aged 43 years.

IMPORTANT TO SPORTSMEN.

A GREAT OBJECTION TO LOADING PAPER SHELLS FOR BREECH LOADING SHOT GUNS REMOVED.

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It will not become displaced by jarring when carried in your pockets or game bag.

The loading of the shells will not hereafter require any apparatus or the use of the shell to secure the wad from moving, and the shot always being compact between the top wad and the wad over the powder, keeps the cartridge in perfect form to fill the chamber, thus preventing the shot from starting and preventing the gun from bursting or producing a recoil.

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Improved Field, Marine, Opera and Tourist's Glasses. Spectacles and Eye Glasses. Artificial Human Eyes. H. WALDSTEIN, Optician, 248 Broadway, N. Y. Catalogues mailed by enclosure stamp. Highest award received at the Centennial and Am. Institute 1876.

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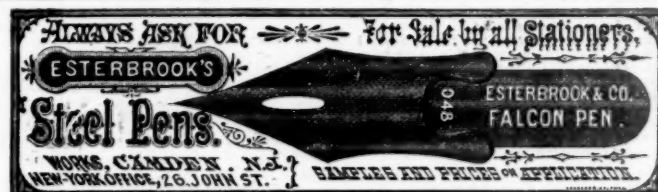
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